REQUEST FOR NEW PROGRAM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA:
BACHELOR OF ARTS (EDUCATION MAJORS)

Action Requested: Consider approval of the request by the University of Iowa to establish a Bachelor of Arts in seven areas of teacher education in the College of Education.

Executive Summary: The University of Iowa College of Education proposes creating Bachelor of Arts (BA) degrees in seven areas in which it currently trains teachers, but for which they currently only receive a BA or Bachelor of Science (BS) in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences upon graduation. In the proposed model, students in these areas will complete the same core of content-area and teacher education courses, but will receive a BA in their education field as well as a BA or BS in the content-area. No new curricula is necessary or planned as part of this proposal. The Council of Provosts and Board office support approval of these new majors.

Background:
Description of proposed program. The University of Iowa (SUI) College of Education proposes to expand the college’s offerings under the degree, Bachelor of Arts (BA) with additional majors, with the intent of providing academic recognition of the scope and depth of student work in existing course requirements of the Teacher Education Program (TEP). Seven new majors are proposed:

• Art Education
• English Education
• Foreign Language Education
• Mathematics Education
• Music Education
• Science Education
• Social Studies Education

The proposed majors’ primary benefits -- at little or no anticipated cost -- include:

• Provide appropriate recognition and validation of the now substantial education coursework that students complete in these TEP areas;
• Add clarity to student transcripts by showing enrollment in the College of Education and award of an education degree, concurrent with enrollment in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) and award of a CLAS degree (currently, the education component is not transparent);
• Designate TEP graduates as College of Education alumni, in addition to their designation as CLAS alumni;
• Enhance the value and perception of SUI’s teacher preparation programs in these areas, both by attracting students, and by benefiting students’ career prospects;
• Align major titles to students’ perceptions: "I'm a Mathematics and Mathematics Education major."

Academic objectives. The program will continue to meet the standards for teacher preparation and teacher licensure of the state of Iowa. Teaching is central to the university's mission, and student success is central to the College of Education’s goals.

Need for proposed program. Enhancements to the attractiveness of teacher preparation in these areas would be beneficial to meeting Iowa’s and the nation’s need for educators. Highly qualified
teachers are in high demand, both in Iowa and across the United States. Nationally, the Bureau of Labor Statistics projects 8% growth in secondary teachers employed by 2026 and retirement of a significant number of older teachers that will create job openings for teachers.

In its yearly review of teacher shortage areas, the state of Iowa has identified ongoing shortages in content areas addressed in this proposal, notably in mathematics, one or more science disciplines, and foreign languages:

- Science: in 15 of the last 15 years;
- Mathematics: in 18 of the last 19 years; and
- Foreign Language: 25 of the last 28 years.

Iowa teacher shortage areas for 2017-2018 related to this proposal for new degree majors are:

- Foreign Language (All)
- Mathematics (Grades 5–12)
- All Science (Grades 5–12)
- Basic Science (Grades 5–12)
- Physics (Grades 5–12)

Award of the BA degree with one of these seven majors will enhance the existing TEP areas and facilitate recruitment of teacher candidates by acknowledging substantial coursework completed by students, adding clarity to student transcripts and enabling graduates to describe their preparation accurately.

Relationship to existing programs at the institution. No new programs are proposed; only new degree awards for existing programs. This proposal will create no new curricula at SUI.

Relationship to existing programs at other colleges and universities. These degrees create no additional duplication with other colleges or universities where similar programs already exist.

Unique features. With this proposal, SUI would be unique with a comprehensive set of teacher education academic majors. At Iowa colleges and universities that offer teacher preparation, academic majors for teacher candidates include several different models:

- Content-area bachelor's degree with non-degree teacher education (the current SUI model: Biology BA with Science Education TEP);
- Content-area bachelor's degree -- tailored to the content requirements for teaching -- plus non-degree teacher education (Mathematics Education BS with Mathematics Education TEP);
- Content-area bachelor's degree with secondary education double-major (Biology and Secondary Education BA);
- Content area courses and professional education courses combined into a single bachelor's degree major (for example, Music Education BA).

Under the proposed model, SUI would offer undergraduate teacher preparation as:

- Content-area bachelor's degree with professional education bachelor's degree (Spanish BA with Foreign Language Education BA), providing academic recognition of the scope and depth of professional education requirements, while maintaining the emphasis on content knowledge represented by a content major.
Projected enrollment. The College of Education anticipates a modest upward trend in enrollment, to which it is anticipated the proposed seven new majors will contribute.

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Workforce need/demand. As noted above, highly qualified teachers are in high demand in Iowa and nationally.

Resources to establish a high-quality program. Existing faculty, staff, facilities and equipment that currently serve the TEP are of high quality and will provide the necessary support for these new programs.

Cost. No new resources, personnel, facilities or equipment will be required to establish and maintain these degree programs. It is expected that any unanticipated increase in costs due to increased enrollment would be offset by associated increased tuition receipts.

Articulation agreements. No new articulation agreements are planned. Applicability of transfer courses will be maintained; College of Education general education requirements for the degrees will remain aligned with College of Liberal Arts and Sciences general education (CLAS Core) requirements.

Accreditation. The seven teacher education program areas that are within the scope of this proposal are approved by the Iowa Department of Education (and Iowa Board of Educational Examiners) as preparation for teaching.

Educator preparation programs are reviewed for continuing approval by the Iowa Department of Education every seven years, with an annual report as ongoing follow-up. The University of Iowa's educator preparation programs received approval in 2011. The most recent review process is in progress, and is anticipated to conclude in 2019.

Date of implementation. July 2019
Letters of Support

Iowa State University
Of Science and Technology

Dean Daniel Clay
College of Education
Lindquist Center
University of Iowa
Iowa City, Iowa 52242-1529

Dean Clay:

I appreciated the opportunity to learn of the University of Iowa College of Education’s intent to propose to the Iowa Board of Regents the addition of seven Bachelor of Arts education degrees. We understand these majors would reflect the existing course requirements of the Teacher Education Program and would be combined with a content major offered by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and a student would then complete a ‘Combined Degree Program’. Completion of a Combined Degree Program would recognize both the breadth and depth of the professional education preparation as well as the knowledge required for K-12 or 5-12 licensure with a content endorsement.

The School of Education at Iowa State University is currently engaged in conversations on our campus that would propose something similar to recognize the completion of professional education requirements as well as disciplinary majors. We believe this is an important recognition of teaching as a profession. You certainly have the strong support of Iowa State University in advancing these new majors.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this proposal. We look forward to Iowa Board of Regents approval.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Laura Dunn Jolly, PhD
Dean, College of Human Sciences

Cc: Marlene Strathe, SOE Director
DATE: May 22, 2018

TO: Nancy Langguth, Associate Dean, Teacher Education and Student Services, University of Iowa

FROM: Patrick Pease, Associate Provost for Academic Affairs, University of Northern Iowa

RE: New majors in TEP

Dear Dr. Langguth,

Thank you for sharing your new program plans with University of Northern Iowa. Your proposed expansion of BA offering in the Teacher Education Program serves the needs of your pre-service teaching students and addresses changing state standards for educator preparation. UNI supports the academic development behind your proposal and has no objections to your new offerings. We wish you well in developing the programs.

Sincerely,

Patrick Pease