

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

- Subject:** A new degree program for the School of Education, University of Michigan-Dearborn
- Action Requested:** Approval of a new degree program titled “Master of Arts in Educational Leadership” to be offered by the School of Education, University of Michigan-Dearborn
- Effective Date:** April 15, 2011

The Master of Arts in Educational Leadership (MAEL) is designed to prepare matriculants for roles in K-12 school leadership. The curriculum offers a broad set of practical administrative skills, as well as important instruction-related leadership principles to students. The target population for this degree includes personnel serving in area public and charter schools and in local community colleges as administrators, or teacher leaders. In light of its exclusive emphasis on issues pertaining to educational leadership, this new degree appropriately renames and replaces the previously offered Master of Public Administration in Educational Administration following the transfer of the bulk of the MPA programming from the School of Education to the College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters effective in 2009. This modification to the degree/program name entails no alteration in the program curriculum or the admissions and degree requirements as they have previously been approved by the faculty of the School of Education, the Presidents Council, the Regents of the University of Michigan, and the State of Michigan Department of Education (MDE), and no new resources are needed to accommodate this change. The renaming has received endorsement from the Executive Committee and faculty of the School of Education, the University of Michigan-Dearborn Graduate Board, the Provost and Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs, and the Presidents Council.

The MAEL curriculum emphasizes the knowledge and skill base required to meet the opportunities and challenges of K-12 school administration. The courses are designed to develop educational leadership competency and skills in organizational administration, curriculum development, instructional leadership, personnel, finance, applications of technology, school community relations, data analysis, legal and regulatory issues, and program evaluation. An internship in educational administration is required in the final year of the program, and courses are offered in the evening to accommodate the working professional.

The program continues to meet MDE Standards for the Preparation of School Principals. Those who successfully complete the program are eligible, upon recommendation by the School of Education, to apply for the Michigan K-12 School Principal Certificate.

Eligibility for admission to the MAEL degree program requires a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with an undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or better on a 4.0 scale and a valid elementary or secondary teaching certificate. Successful completion of three years

classroom teaching is required by the time of program completion to be eligible for recommendation to the Michigan Department of Education for the school administrator certificate. The MAEL is a 30 credit hour degree program, and a minimum cumulative GPA of B (3.0) must be maintained to continue enrollment in the program.

I am pleased to present this proposal for your approval.

Recommended by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Daniel Little", written over a horizontal line.

Daniel Little
Chancellor
University of Michigan-Dearborn

March 2011