



October 22, 2018

TO: Carolyn Kelley, Senior Associate Dean of Academic Programs

FROM: John Rudolph, Chair, Department of Curriculum & Instruction

RE: Request to Suspend Admission to World Language Education Teacher Certification Programs

**Purpose of this memo:**

The Department of Curriculum & Instruction is requesting permission to suspend admission to the World Language Education undergraduate teacher certification programs (Chinese BSE, French BSE, German BSE, Italian BSE, Japanese BSE, Latin BSE, Portuguese BSE, and Spanish BSE) effective May 2021 and for this request to be considered at the School of Education's Academic Planning Council at its next available meeting. This proposed action has been approved by the faculty of the Department of Curriculum & Instruction at its September 17th faculty meeting.

**Rationale for this proposal:**

The Department of Curriculum & Instruction is proposing suspension of these world language teacher certification majors due to chronic low demand. Collectively students enrolled in courses and field experiences associated with these majors have numbers in the range of 4-8 students on average for more than five years running.

A similar program in the department, the Secondary Teacher Certification Program, has transitioned from an undergraduate major to an intensive, 14-month professional masters program to great effect in terms of student enrollment. The department intends to explore this intensive format (which takes advantage of summer courses and field experiences organized around a single, traditional

academic year) for the teacher preparation in the various world languages as a means to address the persistent low-enrollment concerns. We are committed to finding a way to maintain a teacher certification program in world languages. Admitting the last group of students to the current program in the spring of 2020 would allow the department to explore the development of the new, masters level program while students move through the last of the old program. This should take approximately two years beginning in the fall of 2020.

**Impact of this change:**

The suspension of the program impacts prospective students currently on campus as freshmen who may have indicated an interest in one or more of the various language education majors (with teacher certification). Such student would, however, be able to take advantage of the new professional masters program (with certification) without a significant delay in their plan for teacher preparation. The Department of Curriculum & Instruction will work with the School of Education Academic Services office to communicate this change to any and all prospective students.

**Timeline for reporting on the status of the world language education undergraduate degree programs:**

- Fall 2018** — Suspension of WLE Program memo submitted (November 2018)
- Spring 2020** — Admit final cohort of students for a fall 2020 program start
- Spring 2022** — Graduate final fall 2020 class, which will complete teach out of the undergraduate program