

ILLINOIS STATE
UNIVERSITY



Graduate School

309 Hovey Hall
Campus Box 4040
Normal, IL 61790-4040
Telephone: (309) 438-2583
Facsimile: (309) 438-7912
gradinfo@ilstu.edu
www.grad.ilstu.edu

November 18, 2015

TO: Susan Kalter, Chairperson, Academic Senate
FROM: Denise Wilson, Chair, Graduate Curriculum Committee
RE: Executive Summary – Proposal from the Department of Educational Administration and Foundations for a new Teacher Leader Sequence in the M.S. in Ed. in Educational Administration.

The Graduate Curriculum Committee approved and is forwarding for Academic Senate review the attached proposal to add a new Teacher Leader Sequence in the M.S. in Ed. in Educational Administration.

The Department of Educational Administration and Foundations previously offered a master's degree in general administration, which also led to Type 75 certification. In 2011 the Type 75 certificate was discontinued in favor of two separate endorsements (Principal Endorsement and Teacher Leader Endorsement), which is intended to provide a more focused career path and related preparation for teachers in Illinois. This ISBE change required graduate programs in Illinois to submit new program proposals for each endorsement. First, the faculty and staff in EAF developed a major revision of the principal preparation program in response to the changes in the state principal endorsement in 2012, and the new M.S. in Ed. for principal preparation was approved by Illinois State University a few months later. The first cohort began in fall 2013. The number of students has been reduced, of course, due to the highly focused and prescriptive nature of the program.

This proposal addresses the second new state endorsement: Teacher Leader. The proposed sequence contains a course of study that the Illinois State Board of Education approved for the Teacher Leader Endorsement in summer 2014. The teacher leader sequence not only includes Educational Administration classes, but classes from the Department of Special Education and the School of Teaching and Learning since the nature of the program bridges traditional teaching and traditional administration. The Departments agreed that the Teacher Leader sequence would be housed in the Department of Educational Administration and Foundations. The addition of this sequence within the existing M.S. in Ed., in essence, completes the transition from the one General Administrative degree to the two new sequences (the concurrently proposed principal preparation and teacher leader sequences).

The Department of Educational Administration and Foundations designed the Teacher Leader Sequence for experienced teachers who wish to assume building-level leadership roles without moving into formal administrative positions. Students may earn a Master's Degree in Education and the Teacher Leader Endorsement by taking six courses (18 hours) required for endorsement in addition to 15 additional hours in EAF for the master's. Coursework will focus on cultivating leadership that improves teaching and learning.

The Graduate Curriculum Committee supports the proposal to add the new Teacher Leader Sequence.

Attachments