



UNIVERSITY OF  
**GEORGIA**

University of Georgia  
Athens, Georgia 30602  
univcouncil@uga.edu  
www.uga.edu

University Council

April 15, 2022

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – 2021-2022

Susan Sanchez, Chair

Agricultural and Environmental Sciences – Nicholas Fuhrman

Arts and Sciences – Jonathan Haddad (Arts)

Rodney Mauricio (Sciences)

Business – Jim Carson

Ecology – Amanda Rugenski

Education – David Jackson

Engineering – Kun Yao

Environment and Design – Ashley Steffens

Family and Consumer Sciences – Sheri Worthy

Forestry and Natural Resources – Joseph Dahlen

Journalism and Mass Communication – Dodie Cantrell-Bickley

Law – Randy Beck

Pharmacy – Michelle McElhannon

Public and International Affairs – Leah Carmichael

Public Health – Allan Tate

Social Work – Harold Briggs

Veterinary Medicine – Shannon Hostetter

Graduate School – Wendy Ruona

Ex-Officio – Provost S. Jack Hu

Undergraduate Student Representative – Matthew Jue

Graduate Student Representative – Sarah Burns

Dear Colleagues:

The attached proposals from the Mary Frances Early College of Education to terminate the major in Science Education (M.Ed.) on the Athens and Gwinnett campuses only will be agenda items for the April 22, 2022, Full University Curriculum Committee meeting.

Sincerely,

Susan Sanchez, Chair

University Curriculum Committee

cc: Provost S. Jack Hu  
Dr. Marisa Pagnattaro

# PROPOSAL FOR DEACTIVATION OR TERMINATION OF AN ACADEMIC PROGRAM

**Date:** December 9, 2021

**School/College:** Mary Frances Early College of Education

**Department/Division:** Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies Education

**Program (Major and Degree):** Science Education (M.Ed.) – Athens campus only

**Which campus(es) offer this program?** Athens, Gwinnett, and Online

**Deactivation or Termination?** Termination of the Athens campus only

**Proposed Effective Date:** Fall 2022

**Last date students will be admitted to this program:** Fall 2018

**Last date students will graduate from this program:** Summer 2022

## **Program Abstract:**

The Master of Education in Science Education (M.Ed.) focuses on teaching and learning in the natural sciences at the secondary level (Grades 6-12). The program is designed for teachers professionally certified in a secondary science field (Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Earth/Space Sciences, and “Broad Field” Secondary Science) or in Middle Grades Education with a specialization in Science Education. Graduates qualify for a teaching certification upgrade from the Georgia Professional Standards Commission. Students and instructors address the unique challenges and opportunities faced by secondary science teachers today and emphasize an understanding of research-based practices that build on their applied professional expertise developed from classroom experience.

### **1. State the reasons for terminating the program, and provide copies of any relevant documents.**

The Athens campus-based Science Education (M.Ed.) has witnessed drastic enrollment declines since the launch of the online Science Education (M.Ed.). Currently, there are two students in the Athens-based program, which does not meet the university minimum criteria for course enrollments. Because the online program can reach students across the state of Georgia, and because of its capability to allow the students to pursue the degree on a part-time basis while maintaining full-time employment, forecasts for enrollment in the face-to-face, campus-based program are not expected to increase. The department does not have the resources to offer both in-person and online versions of the required courses, and there was a greater market demand for the online option, which as of fall 2021 has 37 students enrolled.

### **2. What will be done to minimize the impact of the termination of the program upon the personal and professional lives of the faculty and staff involved? Include specific information on: a) how faculty and staff will be notified of the termination, and b) how faculty and staff will be reallocated.**

Of the two students remaining in the program, one student will complete the degree in spring 2022 and the other in summer 2022. All faculty within the Science Education program have moved their M.Ed. teaching to the online format.

### **3. What will be done to ensure that termination of the program does not weaken other programs (graduate, undergraduate, or professional) for which the department may be responsible?**

Current enrollment in the online Master of Education in Science Education (fall 2021 enrollment: N = 37), with little or no enrollment in the face-to-face program, suggests that there will be no negative impact on the online program if the face-to-face option is terminated.

## PROPOSAL FOR DEACTIVATION OR TERMINATION OF AN ACADEMIC PROGRAM

**Date:** December 6, 2021

**School/College:** Mary Frances Early College of Education

**Department/Division:** Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies Education

**Program (Major and Degree):** Science Education (M.Ed.) – Gwinnett campus only

**Which campus(es) offer this program?** Athens, Gwinnett, and Online

**Deactivation or Termination?** Termination of the Gwinnett campus only

**Proposed Effective Date:** Summer 2022

**Last date students will be admitted to this program:** No students are enrolled on the Gwinnett campus

**Last date students will graduate from this program:** No students are enrolled on the Gwinnett campus

### **Program Abstract:**

The Master of Education in Science Education focuses on teaching and learning in the natural sciences at the secondary level (grades 6-12). The program is designed for teachers professionally certified in a secondary science field (Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Earth/Space Sciences, and “Broad Field” Secondary Science) or in Middle Grades Education with a specialization in Science Education. Graduates qualify for a teaching certification upgrade from the Georgia Professional Standards Commission. Students and instructors address the unique challenges and opportunities faced by secondary science teachers today and emphasize an understanding of research-based practices that build on their applied professional expertise developed from classroom experience.

### **1. State the reasons for terminating the program, and provide copies of any relevant documents.**

This proposal is to terminate Science Education (M.Ed.) at the Gwinnett campus only. The Mary Frances Early College of Education was contacted by the Office of Accreditation and Institutional Effectiveness to validate programs offered across University of Georgia campuses for the university’s SACSCOC accreditation process. Science Education (M.Ed.) is approved for the Gwinnett campus, but there are no faculty assigned to, nor are there any students on, the Gwinnett program.

### **2. What will be done to minimize the impact of the termination of the program upon the personal and professional lives of the faculty and staff involved? Include specific information on: a) how faculty and staff will be notified of the termination, and b) how faculty and staff will be reallocated.**

Not applicable, as the program is not offered at the Gwinnett campus.

### **3. What will be done to insure that termination of the program does not weaken other programs (graduate, undergraduate, or professional) for which the department may be responsible?**

Not applicable, as the program is not offered at the Gwinnett campus.

## Documentation of Approval and Notification

**Proposal:** Termination of Science Education (M.Ed.) at the Athens and Gwinnett Campuses

**College:** Mary Frances Early College of Education

**Department:** Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies Education

**Proposed Effective Term:** Summer 2022

Department:

- Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies Education Department Head, Dr. Roger Hill, 12/9/2021

School/College:

- Mary Frances Early College of Education Dean, Dr. Denise Spangler, 12/9/2021
- Mary Frances Early College of Education Associate Dean, Dr. Stacey Neuharth-Pritchett, 2/22/22

Graduate School:

- Graduate School Associate Dean, Dr. Anne Shaffer, 3/17/22