



University Council

February 6, 2026

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – 2025-2026

Susan Sanchez, Chair

Agricultural and Environmental Sciences – Julie Campbell

Arts and Sciences – Casie LeGette (Arts)

Paula Lemons (Sciences)

Business – Andrew Miller

Ecology – Amanda Rugenski

Education – Amy Murphy

Engineering – David Stooksbury

Environment and Design – Katherine Melcher

Family and Consumer Sciences – Melissa Landers-Potts

Forestry and Natural Resources – Richard Chandler

Journalism and Mass Communication – Yan Jin

Law – Joe Miller

Medicine – Erica Brownfield

Pharmacy – Duc Do

Public and International Affairs – Ryan Powers

Public Health – Heather Padilla

Social Work – Jennifer Elkins

Veterinary Medicine – Paul Eubig

Graduate School – Rodney Mauricio

Ex-Officio – Provost Benjamin Ayers

Undergraduate Student Representative – Ella Colker

Graduate Student Representative – Yaw Buabeng

Dear Colleagues:

The attached proposal from the Mary Frances Early College of Education to terminate the Graduate Certificate in Educational Leadership Tier I on the Athens campus only will be an agenda item for the February 13, 2026, Full University Curriculum Committee meeting.

Sincerely,

Susan Sanchez, Chair

cc: Provost Benjamin Ayers

Dr. Marisa Anne Pagnattaro

PROPOSAL FOR DEACTIVATION OR TERMINATION OF AN ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Date: October 4, 2025

School/College: Mary Frances Early College of Education

Department/Division: Lifelong Education, Administration, and Policy

Program (Major and Degree): Graduate Certificate in Educational Leadership Tier I

Which campus(es) offer this program? Athens, Online; this proposal is to terminate on the Athens campus only.

Deactivation or Termination? Termination of Athens campus only

Proposed Effective Date: Summer 2026

Last date students will be admitted to this program: No students are enrolled on Athens campus

Last date students will graduate from this program: No students are enrolled on Athens campus

Note: There may be no enrollment in the program as of the termination effective date.

Program Abstract:

Provide a brief summary of the program being proposed for deactivation or termination.

This program is designed for working education professionals who bring at least three years of relevant or transferrable work experience. Tier 1 leadership certification courses in the Department of Educational Administration and Policy at the University of Georgia prepare students for initial leadership certification and place a strong emphasis on knowledge of effective instructional leadership practices that directly impact teaching and learning.

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

In Fall 2022, the faculty submitted a proposal to offer the Graduate Certificate in Educational Leadership Tier I as an online program. Since that time, campus-based applications for the same certificate have dwindled in favor of the online program. In recent semesters, the number of applicants enrolled in the face-to-face campus certificate has been zero. Online enrollment since Fall 2023 has risen to 27 students. Given the expressed interest in the online certificate from potential applicants as well as enrolled students, it appears that the Athens-based face-to-face option for the certificate is no longer needed.

2. What will be done to minimize the impact of the deactivation or 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 deactivation or termination, and b) how faculty and staff will be reallocated.

Faculty and staff have been reassigned to the online variant of the program. The faculty have initiated this proposal. There is no change in staffing as the graduate program administrator has shifted their work on admission and other graduate school processes from serving campus-based students to supporting the online students.

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

No impact on other programs is expected. The shift to online offering has actually increased enrollment in the certificate. The faculty have already balanced that instruction and program delivery with their other graduate programs.

Documentation of Approval and Notification

Proposal: Terminate the Graduate Certificate in Educational Leadership Tier I on the Athens campus only

College: Mary Frances Early College of Education

Department: Lifelong Education, Administration, and Policy

Proposed Effective Term: Summer 2026

School/College:

- Head of the Department of Lifelong Education, Administration, and Policy, Dr. Kathryn Roulston, 10/4/2025
- Mary Frances Early College of Education Dean, Dr. Denise Spangler, 10/4/2025
- Mary Frances Early College of Education Associate Dean, Dr. Stacey Neuharth-Pritchett, 10/28/2025
- Graduate School Associate Dean, Dr. Anne Shaffer, 1/21/2026