ACADEMIC ALERT #2004-6

DATE: **June, 2004**
DECISION: **National College of Education (NCE)**

Revised Early Childhood Administration (ECA) Degree Programs, M.Ed. and C.A.S.
Delivery Models: Cohort and Course-by-Course (both models include online and face to face experiences)

Rationale
Revisions to the Early Childhood Administration (ECA) Degree Programs (M.Ed. and C.A.S.) and the ECA course sequence were made after intense review by the program faculty, considerable attention to student feedback, and comparing ECA program delivery with benchmark practices employed by other online programs.

NCE Curriculum Council Approval: May 5, 2004
Senate Academic Planning Committee Approval: May 13, 2004
Faculty Senate Approval: May 19, 2004

Program Authorizations: The M.Ed. and C.A.S. Early Childhood Administration are authorized to be offered in the Chicago Region; North Suburban Region; West Suburban Region; and South Metropolitan Region.

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: June 7, 2004

CONTACTS: Douglas Clark, Program Coordinator Early Childhood Administration, ext. 5062

SIGNATURE

Carol R. Melnick, Ph.D.
Vice Provost

REVISIONS

Core Courses: Total SH of Core have decreased 3SH from 12SH to 9SH

Drop: ESR506 Graduate Research: Interpretive/Critical (2SH)
Drop: ESR507 Graduate Research: Empirical/Quantitative (2SH)
Drop: FND505: Contemporary Issues in Education (2SH)

Add: ESR505: Educational Inquiry and Assessment (3SH)
ESR 505 is a substitution for ESR506 and ESR507. ECA students are exposed to the two major topics considered in the FND505 course through another required program course, ECE510: Child, Family & Community. Students are exposed to the social, economic, and political contexts surrounding issues of current concern in education. These issues are presented in light of their application to the early childhood educator/practitioner experience.

Program Requirements: Total SH of Program Requirements have increased from 16SH to 18SH

Drop: ECE593: Seminar: Early Childhood Education (2SH)

Add: ECE538: The Early Childhood Administrator: Individual and Organizational Perspectives (2SH)
ECE593 is a course designed for early childhood teachers; hence the topics covered in Seminar are at best loosely relevant to early childhood administrators. ECE538 addresses many of the key issues of adult development related to leadership, and personal and organizational growth.

Add: ECE534: Technology in Child Care Administration I (2SH)
In light of NLU's and the College of Education's aim to prepare computer-literate practitioners, the rationale for this suggestion requires little explanation. Furthermore, with the obvious focus the ECA program places on effective administrative practices, it is most fitting that the technology course be requisite rather than optional.

Revised M.Ed. Early Childhood Administration Degree Program

Course Code	Course Title	Semester Hours
Core Requirements (9 SH)		
EPS500A	Human Development with a Focus on Early Childhood	3
ESR505	Educational Inquiry and Assessment	3
FND503	Historical & Philosophical Foundations of Early Childhood Education	3
Program Requirements (18 SH)		
ECE510	Child, Family and Community	3
ECE 512	Early Childhood Curriculum	2
ECE515	Financial & Legal Aspects of Child Care Administration	3
ECE525	Strategies for Supervision and Staff Development	3
ECE534	Technology in Child Care Administration I	2
ECE 538	Early Childhood Administrator: Individual and Organizational Perspectives (formerly titled: Individual & Organizational Perspectives on Adult Development)	2
EPS526	Organizational Theory, Group Dynamics, & Leadership Applications	3
Program Electives (7 SH)		
In consultation with an ECA advisor form list of approved electives		7
Total Minimum Hours for Degree		34

The total semester hours for program electives have increased by 1SH from 6SH to 7SH.
The total minimum semester hours for the degree remains unchanged at 34SH.

Pre-sequenced Course Loads for ECA M.Ed. Cohort

Course Code	Course Title	Semester Hours
Core Requirements (9 SH)		
EPS500A	Human Development with a Focus on Early Childhood	3
ESR505	Educational Inquiry and Assessment	3
FND503	Historical & Philosophical Foundations of Early Childhood Education	3
Program Requirements (18 SH)		
ECE510	Child, Family and Community	3
ECE512	Early Childhood Curriculum	2
ECE515	Financial & Legal Aspects of Child Care Administration	3
ECE525	Strategies for Supervision and Staff Development	3
ECE534	Technology in Child Care Administration I	2
ECE 538	Early Childhood Administrator: Individual and Organizational Perspectives (formerly titled: Individual & Organizational Perspectives on Adult Development)	2
EPS526	Organizational Theory, Group Dynamics, & Leadership Applications	3
Program Electives (7 SH)		
ECE540	Grantwriting and Fundraising for Early Childhood Programs	2
ECE542	Public Relations and Marketing of Early Childhood Programs	2
ECE544	Early Childhood Environments: Design & Facilities Management	2
ECE582G	Writing & Editing for Effective Communication	1
Total Minimum Hours for Degree		34

This configuration shows the 7SH of program elective courses that have been pre-selected for ECA Cohort students. A new ECA Cohort is convened annually in June.

Revised C.A.S. Early Childhood Administration Degree Program

Course Code	Course Title	Semester Hours
Core Requirements (3 SH)		
EDL 546	Perspectives on Administration of Educational Policy	3
Program Requirements (18 SH)		
ECE 510	Child, Family and Community	3
ECE 512	Early Childhood Curriculum	2
ECE515	Financial & Legal Aspects of Child Care Administration	3
ECE525	Strategies for Supervision and Staff Development	3
ECE534	Technology in Child Care Administration I	2
ECE 538	Early Childhood Administrator: Individual and Organizational Perspectives (formerly titled: Individual & Organizational Perspectives on Adult Development)	2
EPS526	Organizational Theory, Group Dynamics, & Leadership Applications	3
Program Electives (9 SH)		
In consultation with an ECA advisor from a list of approved electives		9
Total Minimum Hours for the Degree		30

The total semester hours for program electives have decreased by 2SH from 11SH to 9SH.
The total minimum semester hours for the degree remains unchanged at 30SH

.Early Childhood Administration (ECA) Approved Electives

Course Code	Course Title	Semester Hours
ECE532	Advocating for Children with Special Needs	2
ECE535	Technology in Child Care Administration II	2
ECE536	The Director as Child Care Advocate	2
ECE540	Grantwriting and Fundraising for Early Childhood Programs	1-2
ECE542	Public Relations and Marketing of Early Childhood Programs	1-2
ECE544	Early Childhood Environments: Design and Facilities Management	1-2
ECE545	Strategies for Effective Coaching and Mentoring	2
ECE546	Presentation Skills for Early Childhood Leaders	2
ECE582C	Early Childhood Program Evaluation	2
ECE582D	The Administration of School-Age Child Care Programs	2
ECE582E	Implementing a Family-Responsive Program	2-3
ECE582F	The New Director	2
ECE582G	Writing and Editing for Effective Communication	1-2
ECE582H	The Art of Leadership: A World View	2
ECE582I	Leadership Connections (*students may take the course up to three times)*	2
ECE582J	The Administration of Infant/Toddler Programs	2
ECE585R	The Reggio Emilia Approach	1-3

Teach-Out Plan

In keeping with existing practice, the three courses scheduled to be dropped will be offered online according to the following schedule:

- ESR506 in Fall 2004
- ESR507 in Winter 2005
- FND505 in Spring 2005
- ECE593 will no longer be offered online for ECA students. ECE593 could be offered online by the ECE graduate certification program to serve its students.

As the substitute for ESR506 and ESR507, ESR505 will be scheduled for online delivery in the 2005-2006 academic year.

Implementation:

Planned changes to the ECA program are effective on June 7, 2004. Admitted students with completed Graduate Study Plans on file with the Registrar will finish under the "old" ECA core and program requirements structure. A roster of these students will be compiled and forwarded to the Offices of the Provost and Registrar by June 30, 2004. The first cohort group that follows the revised ECA core and program requirements begins June 13, 2004.

The program description and course descriptions need to be in the 2006-2008 catalogue.

Needed as well are marketing materials, and brochures.

Collaboration of all appropriate University units to assure successful implementation of the revised ECA Program, M.Ed. and C.A.S.

Work with the Center for Online Learning (CoOL) to develop an online evaluation tool that maintains confidentiality.