

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
between
TEXAS A&M INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
and
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

The College of Education at Texas A&M International University (TAMIU) and the College of Education at Texas A&M University (TAMU) have developed this memorandum of understanding to provide an opportunity for a cohort of selected graduate students to earn the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Curriculum and Instruction with an area of emphasis in Culture and Curriculum at TAMU. This effort complements a larger initiative on the part of Texas A&M University to provide greater access to degree programs for South Texas residents. The Department of Teaching, Learning, and Culture is committed to working with faculty and administration from the College of Education at TAMIU to ensure the success of this undertaking.

ADMISSION

Individuals desiring to enter the doctoral program must have a master's degree from an accredited institution and meet the admission requirements described in both the TAMU Graduate Catalog and in Department of Teaching, Learning, and Culture supporting documents. As part of the admission process, individuals desiring to enter the program must complete a screening interview conducted by members of the graduate faculty from the Department of Teaching, Learning, and Culture at TAMU and the Department of Curriculum & Instruction at TAMIU.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Individuals accepted into the doctoral program must complete all program requirements outlined in the Graduate Catalog of TAMU. The following existing requirements are highlighted for clarification:

- a. Residence requirements for the Ph.D. degree, described in the TAMU Graduate Catalog, must be fulfilled.
- b. Twenty-one semester credit hours of graduate course work in Curriculum & Instruction completed in residence at TAMIU with a final grade of B or greater will be considered for transfer credit if, at the time the courses were completed, the student was in degree seeking status at TAMU or at TAMIU. All course work to be considered for transfer credit must meet the limitations stated in the TAMU Graduate Catalog.
- c. Students desiring to register for courses to be used in fulfilling program requirements must have prior approval of the coordinator of Graduate Programs, Department of Teaching, Learning, and Culture at TAMU, until such time as each establishes a doctoral advisory committee. It is expected that students will establish a doctoral advisory committee within 12 months of their initial enrollment.
- d. At least forty-three (43) semester hours of resident credit graduate course work will originate on the main campus at College Station.
- e. Up to 21 elective courses may be completed at TAMIU (see item b). Core courses must be completed at TAMU.

f. Registration for problems courses must be completed in compliance with requirements of the Department of Teaching, Learning, and Culture, e.g., approval of proposals (prior to registration) and approval of final reports by the student's advisory committee and the Department.

g. Preliminary examinations, proposal hearings, and dissertation defenses will be held on the TAMU Campus.

h. Students who have completed all course work on their degree plan, other than EDCI 691 (Research) or EDCI 684 (Internship), are required to be in continuous registration until all requirements for the degree have been completed. The continuous registration requirement may be satisfied by registering either In Absentia or In Residence.

i. The Department of Teaching, Learning, and Culture at TAMU is responsible for developing and submitting to the Texas A&M University System by May 10, 2004 a Step 2 Cooperative Ph.D. proposal in Curriculum & Instruction by collaborating with the Department of Curriculum & Instruction at TAMIU.

j. The Department of Curriculum and Instruction at TAMIU is responsible for developing, in consultation with the Department of Teaching, Learning, and Culture at TAMU, the following graduate semester credit hours (gsch) of course work leading to the Ph.D. in Curriculum & Instruction: 21 gsch prior to the Fall 2004 term; 30 gsch prior to the Fall 2005 term; and 45 gsch prior to the Fall 2006 term.

k. The Department of Curriculum & Instruction at TAMIU is responsible for developing and submitting to the Texas A&M University System by May 2006 a Step 3 proposal to establish a Ph.D. program in Curriculum & Instruction at TAMIU.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Students should select a doctoral advisory committee and file a degree plan with the Office of Graduate Studies before registration (or pre registration) for a fifth term, excluding summer terms, and no later than 90 days prior to the preliminary examination. Faculty from TAMIU will serve on the advisory committees of these students as Associate / Adjunct Members of the Graduate Faculty at TAMU. The minimum committee membership will be composed of the following:

- Co-Chair - Department of Teaching, Learning, and Culture at TAMU
- Co-Chair - TAMIU
- Members - One member from the Department of Teaching, Learning, and Culture at TAMU
- One member from a TAMU department other than the Department of Teaching, Learning, and Culture

STUDENT SUPPORT

The Department of Teaching, Learning, and Culture at TAMU will use teleconferencing, site visitations (at both TAMIU and TAMU), independent studies, and other appropriate means to facilitate the completion of course work.

a. Advising and mentoring of students will be conducted by faculty from the Department of Teaching, Learning, and Culture at TAMU in collaboration with faculty from the Department of Curriculum & Instruction at TAMIU. In addition, Graduate Committee in the Department of Teaching, Learning, and Culture at TAMU and the Doctoral Program Advisor from the Department of Curriculum & Instruction at TAMIU will monitor student progress throughout the program.

b. It is expected that students will proceed as a group through the majority of their course work and will work with faculty on a more individual basis as they approach the dissertation phase of their programs.

c. TAMU and TAMIU will develop and implement a Consortium Agreement for financial aid purposes. This agreement will facilitate financial aid for doctoral students enrolled in TAMIU classes that will be transferred to the doctoral TAMU program. Students will apply directly to TAMU for financial aid.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
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TEXAS A&M INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
and
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

For: Texas A&M University

For: Texas A&M International University

Dennie Smith, Head, Department
of Teaching, Learning, and Culture

Date

Juan Lira
Juan Lira, Chair, Department
of Curriculum and Instruction

4-8-04
Date

James P. Conoley
James P. Conoley, Dean
College of Education

4-8-04
Date

Humberto Gonzalez
Humberto Gonzalez, Dean
College of Education

4/8/04
Date

John R. Giardino, Dean of
Graduate Studies

Date

Dan R. Jones
Dan R. Jones, Provost and Vice
President for Academic Affairs

4-13-04
Date

David Prior, Executive Vice
President and Provost

Date

Ray M. Keck, III
Ray M. Keck, III President

4-8-04
Date

This agreement may be amended or void by means of common written consent on the part of the signatories or their designated representatives.