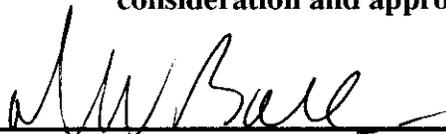


**SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION  
PROGRAM PLANNING SUMMARY PROPOSAL**

**LANDER UNIVERSITY**

**PROGRAM: M.T. DEGREE IN SECONDARY EDUCATION**

**Lander University respectfully submits the following program planning  
proposal to the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education for  
consideration and approval:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel W. Ball", is written over a solid horizontal line.

**Daniel W. Ball, President**

**Program Classification**

Master in Teaching (M.T.) in secondary education

Daniel Ball, President

Lander University

**Designation – New Program Proposal**

New Program Proposed: Master in Teaching in Secondary Education

Academic Unit: College of Education

Degree: Master of Teaching (M.T.)

Hours required: Minimum of 48 hours

**Proposed Date of Implementation:** Summer 2010

This new program of study is designed for initial teacher certification at the graduate level in secondary education and is dependent upon an undergraduate major in a subject area (mathematics, biology, chemistry, English, social studies or Spanish) with an undergraduate component in education. The proposed M.T. degree program will include a minimum of 36 semester hours of graduate work, with courses from the content area, content methods, and professional education. In addition, twelve hours of Internship experience (for a total of 48 hours) will be required.

**Justification of need for the proposed program**

The original service area for Lander University is seven rural counties. These counties have a demonstrated need for secondary teachers. Lander University has a record of success in preparing effective teachers (early childhood, elementary, special education, art, English, social studies, mathematics, music, and physical education) who begin teaching careers and persist in teaching in these districts. A strong tradition of collaboration exists between these school districts and is at the heart of the University's and its College of Education's mission.

The school districts in the Lander service area have a critical need for teachers certified in secondary content areas of mathematics, the sciences, English, social studies, and Spanish. Responses from instructional leaders in these districts indicate that they will need to hire at least 55 teachers certified in secondary content in the next year. Student data for these districts reflects the challenge of education in high minority and low socio-economic areas – low graduate rate, low achievement scores. South Carolina was recognized as the sixth highest rural-education priority state in the nation as reported in the publication *Why Rural Matters 2007*.

The school districts in the Lander service area reflect many of these characteristics and have a need for secondary level teachers who are distinctively prepared to respond to this environment by

- analyzing instructional needs,
- developing appropriate materials, and
- providing effective teaching in the local context.

**Anticipated program demand and productivity**

The anticipated program productivity is 6-8 graduates per year. A survey of human resource leaders in the target geographic areas indicates local interest in initial certification in secondary content areas through graduate studies, as has been expressed by a total of three to five human resource administrators this year. Lander professors in the content areas of mathematics, the sciences, English and social studies report interest inquiries of zero to two per content area each year. An unknown factor impacting demand for university-prepared teachers is the availability of alternative certification entry (PACE and ABCTE) into teaching.

The goal of the proposed Lander program is not only to provide entry into the teaching profession, but preparation to contribute to student success –by concentrating on the quality of teacher preparation. Recruitment activities are being designed to populate this program, and to identify “promising students” in their sophomore year; an approach supported by the literature (Science Education, 2005). Strategies to enhance recruitment of candidates into teacher preparation include a district paid internship and quality mentoring.

**Assessment of extent to which the proposed program duplicates existing programs in the state**

The University of South Carolina in Columbia offers an M.T. secondary program of studies which is limited to its own undergraduates continuing into a fifth year of studies. USC Internships are limited to the Columbia area only. Other institutions offering a fifth year master’s degree with secondary certification are listed in the chart below.

Existing Graduate Degree Programs for Initial Certification				
Science	Mathematics	Spanish	English	Social Studies
Coastal Carolina S.C. State Univ. USC – Columbia Winthrop Citadel Converse	Coastal Carolina S.C. State Univ. USC – Columbia Winthrop Citadel Converse	Winthrop	Coastal Carolina S.C. State Univ. USC – Columbia Winthrop Citadel Converse Bob Jones Univ.	Coastal Carolina S.C. State Univ. USC – Columbia Winthrop Citadel

The proposed Lander M.T. will be distinguished by its collaboration with districts. Specifically, the program's design calls for district-paid internships and a program structure which fosters candidate analysis of district needs and action research related to teaching secondary students.

### **Relationship of the proposed program to existing programs at the proposing institution**

The proposed program will challenge enrollment in Lander's existing undergraduate certification programs in mathematics, English, and social studies. As Lander transitions into the proposed M.T. offering, consideration will be given to termination of existing undergraduate teacher certification programs with low productivity. During the transition, both graduate and undergraduates programs will employ combined course offerings with distinguishing expectations for graduate level candidates.

The proposed program parallels Lander's existing Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.) in art education. The M.A.T. recruits an average of 5 students per year from Lander undergraduate program of studies in favor of the graduate program. Like the M.A.T., the structure of the proposed M.T. program would allow potential candidates to complete an undergraduate degree and consider alternative career paths while offering a viable alternative with a predictable outcome – full employment in the local area within 17 months of program entry. Undergraduate students majoring in content areas would constitute a pool for potential recruits into the M.T.

Candidate learning outcomes for the Lander M.T. will mirror those of the undergraduate and MAT initial certification programs, including adherence to conceptual framework, EEDA and ADEPT. Accreditation will be through NCATE and Specialty Professional Organizations (NSTA, NCTE, NCTM, and ACTFL.)

Summative Assessments will comply with the existing NCATE approved candidate assessment system and program evaluation will follow procedures currently used with all other certifying programs.

### **Relationship of the proposed program to other institutions via inter-institutional cooperation**

Lander is revising its General Education program to facilitate transfer of students from the State's Technical Colleges into the Lander undergraduate programs of study supported by the proposed MT program.

### **New costs associated with implementing the proposed program**

There will be no new administrative costs. The new costs associated with the proposed program are as follows:

- Salary for one additional FTE faculty member in the sciences. Anticipated cost is \$60,000, which will be covered without seeking additional state appropriations.
- Recruitment activities (professional activities connecting potential applicants to the field of education) will be met by grant funding which has already been obtained.
- Costs associated with the provided internships will be met through partnerships with numerous South Carolina placement school districts. State Superintendent of Education Dr. Jim Rex has provided a letter of support for this proposal.



Together, we can.

January 17, 2008

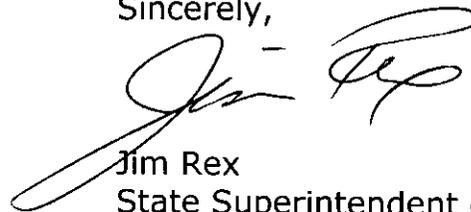
Commission on Higher Education  
1333 Main Street, Suite 200  
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear CHE Members:

I have discussed Lander's proposed Teacher Preparation Degree Program with the President and the Dean of the College of Education at Lander University. This proposal has great potential to improve the way teachers are prepared for our state. I would urge you to permit Lander University to proceed in the development of this concept. The South Carolina Department of Education stands ready to assist in making this effort successful.

Thank you for considering Lander University's New Teacher Preparation Proposal.

Sincerely,



Jim Rex  
State Superintendent of Education

JR/nw