

April 30, 2003

**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Ms. Dianne Chinnes, Chairman, and Members, Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing

**From:** Dr. Gail M. Morrison, Deputy Executive Director, and Director of Academic Affairs and Licensing

**Consideration of Request for Amendment of License**  
**Nova Southeastern University, Ft. Lauderdale, FL to add Ed.D. for Educational Leaders at Charleston**

**Summary**

Nova Southeastern University (NSU) [www.nova.edu](http://www.nova.edu) requests an amendment to its license to offer its program leading to the Ed.D. degree for Educational Leaders in Charleston. The Commission has licensed NSU to operate in South Carolina since January 1982, having last renewed the license for five years in March 2002. NSU offers the program in Columbia. With the approval of the Commission and if enrollments are sufficient, NSU will implement the Charleston site in September 2003.

Nova Southeastern University (NSU) is an independent, not-for-profit, SACS-accredited, coeducational institution. It was founded in 1964 as Nova University of Advanced Technology. In 1974, the Board of Trustees changed the name to Nova University. In 1994, Nova University merged with Southeastern University of the Health Sciences to form Nova Southeastern University.

The doctoral programs NSU offers in South Carolina meet in Saturday seminars held once monthly for three academic years. The cluster is a student group of 20-25 professionals who work in a variety of settings, usually within geographic proximity to one another. They begin and progress through the program together. The cluster serves as an administrative and educational vehicle, providing communication and support systems under the direction of a local cluster coordinator. The coordinator holds a doctorate in education or an allied field and is usually a graduate of the program. He/she is responsible for dealing with program logistics, with student and faculty needs, with management

issues, with liaison procedures, and with other tasks that help ensure the smooth operation of the cluster. The Charleston County School District has agreed to rent to NSU space for the program at Wando High School in Mt. Pleasant.

Library resources available to students include: (1) a core collection of books and materials housed in NSU's Library and made available to students by mail, email, or FAX; (2) practicum manuals, form and style guides and study guides that include a major amount of the research resources needed for each study and specialization area; (3) an easily accessed, free document delivery service of print resources through the NSU Libraries as well as from host agreements through the University of Michigan and Wayne State University; (4) Web access to online resources including 28,000 full-text journal titles, 209 subscription databases (including ERIC, ERIC E-Subscribe, WelsonWeb Education Full Text, and ProQuest Research Periodicals), 100,000 full-text ERIC documents online, and 100,000 full-text dissertations available through Digital Dissertations; (5) reimbursement of up to \$150 per year for "Friends of the Library" cards that assist students with access to libraries near their homes. Funds are made available to the cluster coordinator for purchase of additional academic resources as required.

The mission of the Ed.D. Program for Educational Leaders is to provide practicing administrators the opportunity to acquire knowledge and to develop effective leadership to foster innovative and productive learning environments. The program's intention is to help participants develop leadership skills that they will apply to the solution of real problems in schools and other learning environments. The education systems in which program participants are administrators constitute an international laboratory in which interventions are explored, tested, implemented, evaluated, and shared.

The faculty is comprised of both full-time and campus-based professors and national adjunct faculty members. All faculty and coordinators hold earned doctorates from accredited institutions. They teach in their degree fields in all locations to ensure comparability of quality and curricula. Faculty members are scholars and practitioners from a variety of universities and educational systems who provide a global perspective and bring international, national, and campus resources to the students and their local communities. The program devotes considerable attention to leadership assessment and development by participants in their work settings. Annual summer instructions bring participants together to explore professional issues and practices with one another and with leaders in politics, education, business, and other human services.

Admission to the program requires a master's degree with at least a 3.0 GPA from an accredited institution; current employment in the administration of (or in consultation with) a school (pre-kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade public or nonpublic school or school system); administrative certification (when appropriate); results of the Miller Analogies Test (MAT) taken within the past five years; and one letter of recommendation from a supervisor knowledgeable about the applicant's administrative performance and leadership. In addition, candidates must have the authority and the latitude to conduct

action research projects designed to improve education in their own school or school system.

A maximum of six semester hours of credit will be considered for transfer if the credit was earned within three calendar years of the request for transfer; the credit was earned as a matriculated participant in a regionally accredited doctoral program; and the content of courses being requested for transfer is equivalent in content to Educational Leaders study areas. Enrollment in the Educational Leaders program is intended for practicing school administrators. Therefore, applicants must already hold certification appropriate to their present administrative position.

The program consists of 66 credit hours and includes 36 hours in the study area, 24 hours in field study/practicum components, and six hours for summer instruction. Tuition is \$13,584 per academic year. Tuition beyond the second year is \$1,500 per term. The following table shows the curriculum content for the Ed.D. for Educational Leaders.

<b>Ed.D. for Educational Leaders</b>		
<b>Course Number</b>	<b>Course Name</b>	<b>Semester Credit Hours</b>
EDL 8411	Research Design and Methods	3
EDL 8412	Statistical Methods	3
EDL 8413	Program Evaluation and Policy Analysis	3
EDL 8414	Measurement Testing and Assessment	3
EDL 8431	Finance and Law	3
EDL 8432	Policy and Law	3
EDL 8441	Educational Leadership and Change	3
EDL 8461	Leadership Communication & Interpersonal Relations	3
EDL 8462	Ethics and Educational Leadership	3
EDL 8471	Creating Learning Communities	3
EDL 8472	Human Resource Development Plan	3
EDL 8481	Leadership Appraisal	3
EDL 8491	Field Study: Independent Specialization Project	6
EDL 9490	Field Study: Reflection and Vision Portfolio	3
EDL	Applied Dissertation: Concept Paper	2
EDL 9460	Applied Dissertation: Proposal	5
EDL 9470	Applied Dissertation: Report	8
EDL	Summer Instruction	6
	Total Credit Hours	66

**Recommendation**

The staff suggests that the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing commend

favorably to the Commission an amendment to the license of Nova Southeastern University to offer at Charleston beginning in September 2003 the program leading to the Ed.D. degree for Educational Leaders.