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Chair of the Assembly and the Academic Council
Faculty Representative to the Board of Regents
University of California
1111 Franklin Street, 12th Floor
Oakland, California 94607-5200

July 6, 2012

**AIMÉE DORR
PROVOST AND EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT**

Re: Reconstitution of UCI's Department of Education as a School of Education

Dear Aimée:

At its meeting on June 27, 2012, the Academic Council endorsed the recommendation of the Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs (CCGA) that UC Irvine's Department of Education be reconstituted as a School of Education. In accordance with Senate Bylaw [125.B.7](#), if no meeting of the Assembly of the Academic Senate is scheduled within 60 days of CCGA's recommendation, Council acts on behalf of the Assembly. I have enclosed CCGA's analysis of the proposal and letters from UCPB and UCEP supporting the reconstitution. Council requests that you recommend reconstitution to the President, and he, to the Regents, in accordance with Standing Order of the Regents [110.1](#).

Sincerely,



Robert M. Anderson, Chair
Academic Council

Cc: CCGA
Academic Council
Executive Director Winnacker, Academic Senate
Chair Deborah Vandell, UCI Department of Education
Eric Zárate, Senior Policy Analyst, Academic Senate
Hilary Baxter, Assistant Director, Academic Planning, Programs and Coordination

Encl.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, ACADEMIC SENATE

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COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE AFFAIRS (CCGA)

Rachael Goodhue, Chair
goodhue@primal.ucdavis.edu

ACADEMIC SENATE
University of California
1111 Franklin Street, 12th Floor
Oakland, California 94607-5200

June 13, 2012

ROBERT ANDERSON
ACADEMIC COUNCIL CHAIR

Dear Bob:

At its June meeting, CCGA voted (10-0-1) to approve a **proposal to reconstitute the Department of Education as a School of Education at UC Irvine**. CCGA has thoroughly reviewed the proposal and believes that the proposed program fulfills a need in the UC system. In addition, the proposal has also been reviewed and approved by UCPB and UCEP. Approval of a new school or college requires favorable review by the Academic Council and must be authorized by the General Assembly before it can go forward to the Office of the President. If there is no scheduled General Assembly meeting within 60 days, the request is placed on the agenda of the Academic Council consonant with Compendium review processes.

The proposal was originally submitted as a name change and presented to the Divisional Senate in 2008, but was deferred until the doctoral program had been established. However, in order to comply with divisional and system-wide requirements, the proposal was revised to request establishment of a new school. In the interim, the Department of Education has developed its faculty, academic programs, and facilities required for the School, and no additional resources are requested with this action. The department's academic and administrative framework and operation, autonomous reporting structure, and reporting mechanisms are similar to other academic and professional schools on the Irvine campus and across the University of California. The department is financially sound and has sufficient resources to support all of the functions of the proposed School of Education. The Divisional Senate has requested that the pre-proposal process required as part of the revised Compendium procedures be waived as the department has, for all intents and purposes, been performing at the level of a School. CCGA has no objections to waiving this pre-proposal step.

Consistent with CCGA practices, external program reviews were obtained from experts in the field and included faculty from Harvard University, the University of Virginia, UC Berkeley, and UC Davis. All four reviewers were generally positive about the proposed program and praised many aspects, including the academic quality, rigor, and scope of programs; quality of faculty; strong leadership, and cost-neutrality. CCGA members raised a few cautionary concerns regarding the financial viability of the new School, especially in the context of the current economic climate for higher education. The proponents have furnished additional budget information to the satisfaction of CCGA and I am enclosing CCGA's final report on this proposal along with the correspondent letters of endorsement from UCPB and UCEP. The requisite review of the proposal by the "Compendium" committees (CCGA, UCBP and UCEP) is now complete and we commend it to you.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions pertaining to this review.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rachael Goodhue". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Rachael Goodhue, Ph.D.
Chair, CCGA

Copy: Robert Anderson, Academic Council Chair
Martha Winnacker, Academic Senate Executive Director
Craig Martens, Irvine Division Chair
Chair Deborah Vandell, Department of Education
Prof. Jim Chalfant, UCOB Chair
Prof. José Wudka, UCEP Chair
Prof. Ruth Mulnard, UCI Representative to CCGA
Prof. Sharon Farmer, CCGA Lead Reviewer
Hilary Baxter, Assistant Director, Academic Planning, Programs and Coordination
Clare Sheridan, Academic Council Analyst

Enclosures

Proposal to Reconstitute the Department of Education as a School of Education at UC Irvine

Final Report and Recommendation for Approval

Lead Reviewer: Professor Sharon Farmer, UCSB

The proposal was formally approved by the UCI Senate Assembly on March 15, 2012; on March 26, Michael Gottfredson, UCI's Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost, endorsed the proposal and forwarded it to Provost Lawrence Pitts. CCGA first discussed the proposal at its meeting of April 3. Sharon Farmer, who was assigned as lead reviewer, then solicited two external review letters from Harvard University (Kathleen McCartney, Dean, Graduate School of Education) and the University of Virginia (Robert Pianta, Dean, Curry School of Education) and two internal review letters from UC Berkeley (Judith Warren Little, Dean, Graduate School of Education) and UC Davis (Harold G. Levine, Dean, School of Education).

All of the reviewers commented on the quality of the faculty and the degree programs in the Department of Education at UCI, where there is a full range of degree programs, including a doctoral program that welcomed its first class of doctoral candidates in fall, 2007. As Harold Levine wrote, "The Department of Education currently provides a robust set of degree programs, highly qualified faculty at all levels of the professoriate, research opportunities and accomplishments, as well as an administrative structure that appears to support all of these functions." Kathleen McCartney adds "despite the fact that it is not yet a school, the UC Irvine department of education is considered as such by its peers, and compares extremely favorably among schools of education nationally. The department of education already resembles a school of education in the range and complexity of its research agenda and education programs, and its faculty includes internationally renowned scholars, many with large research programs." She adds, concerning degree programs in the department that the new Ph.D. program has "attracted a high-quality applicant pool" and the department supports "one of the largest teacher education programs in the UC system." Judith Warren Little observes that the reconstitution is justified because "in the last several years, UC Irvine has moved from a department with primary strengths in teacher education to a department with strengths that span all aspects of the highest ranked schools of education...on the criterion of academic rigor, its standing is well assured." Concerning the financial standing of the program, Little finds no reason to disbelieve the proponents' claim that the reconstitution will be cost neutral, and, she continues, "there's every indication that the department is well and responsibly run, that it is staffed appropriately for the financial responsibilities it must fulfill, and that its physical facilities are sufficient to support the range of programmatic initiatives it has launched. Under [Dean] Vandell's leadership, and with steady investment by the UC Irvine Campus, the department of education has emerged as a robust unit with all the capacities associated with a School of Education."

All of the reviewers find compelling the claim that the reconstitution will be cost neutral. Harold Levine does sound one note of financial caution, but his concern is largely colored by the climate of budget cuts to the UC as a whole, rather than by the viability of the current Department of Education/proposed School of Education. To his particular question, "will any additional budget cutting be meted out differently to UC Irvine schools vs. departments?" UCPB responded that "how a campus entity is cut does not depend in any formulaic manner on its name."

The proposers, campus administrators, campus senate bodies, internal and external reviewers, as well as UCPB, UCEP and CCGA all agree that reconstituting UCI's Department of Education as a School of Education will enhance its visibility and status, that the change will be cost neutral for UCI and the UC system, and that there will be no negative impact on other programs in the system or at UCI. For all of these reasons, I recommend that CCGA vote to approve this proposal.



UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON PLANNING AND BUDGET (UCPB)
James A. Chalfant, Chair
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June 12, 2012

ROBERT ANDERSON, CHAIR
ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Re: UC Irvine proposal to reconstitute its Department of Education as a School of Education

Dear Bob,

CCGA recently asked the University Committee on Planning and Budget to review a UC Irvine proposal to reconstitute its Department of Education to a School of Education, and to comment on any possible budgetary implications resulting from the change, including whether a School would be expected to absorb a larger proportion of a budget cut than a Department.

UCPB supports the proposal. The School designation will confer additional visibility and status that will help Irvine recruit faculty and students, and it does not appear that the change will require additional resources. The department chair, who will become dean, is currently functioning as a dean, in many respects, and we agree that any budgetary implications (such as the dean's salary) would be entirely within the campus's prerogative. We also agree that how a campus entity is cut does not depend in any formulaic manner on its name.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of James A. Chalfant.

James A. Chalfant
UCPB Chair

cc: UCPB
CCGA Chair Goodhue
Martha Winnacker, Senate Executive Director



UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY (UCEP)

José Wudka, Chair

jose.wudka@ucr.edu

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June 13, 2012

**RACHAEL GOODHUE, CHAIR
COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE AFFAIRS**

**ROBERT ANDERSON, CHAIR
ACADEMIC COUNCIL**

Re: Proposal to Establish the UCI School of Education

Dear Rachael and Bob:

On behalf of the University Committee on Educational Policy I would like to express support for the establishment of the UCI School of Education. This action will enhance the visibility of the programs and also provides a more accurate representation of the prestige of the Department. No negative effects are expected on any of the undergraduate programs.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jose Wudka".

Jose Wudka, Chair
UCEP