

CCCECE ShoutOut!

Education and Teacher Preparation

February 20, 2013

Sent on Behalf of Joel Gordon, CCCECE President:

Will the State Academic Senate forbid ECE/Child Development Faculty from Preparing Teachers? Talk to your Academic Senate NOW!

Colleagues,

This April the State Academic Senate will vote to create (or not) a new discipline: Teacher Education. The minimum qualifications to teach in this discipline were designed to specifically exclude a Master's Degree in Child Development or Early Childhood Education. It is unclear as to why those who are championing this new degree feel that we are not qualified to teach education. However, at this point it is critical that your department LET YOUR ACADEMIC SENATE PRESIDENT KNOW THAT THEY NEED TO OPPOSE THE RESOLUTION TO CREATE THIS DISCIPLINE, UNLESS CHILD DEVELOPMENT/ECE FACULTY ARE INCLUDED. Here are some facts you need to know in order to make your presentation to your local senate:

1. The current proposal, by excluding a Master's in ECE or Child Development, degrades the discipline of ECE since even with a valid teaching credential, individuals would not meet the minimum qualifications, but someone with a Master's in Physics, Psych, or History would.
2. ECE is a discipline that specifically addresses learning and teaching, while many others included in the list do not.
3. Possession of content knowledge required for teacher preparation is not dependent on possession of a K-12 teaching credential. By requiring that individuals hold a K-12 teaching credential (OR the equivalent) in addition to the Master's Degree, this proposal generates confusion between the Master's and the Non-Master's Disciplines Lists. (Disciplines that have an experience requirement are on the Non-Master's List.)

However, a Master's Degree in Early Childhood Education or Child Development does include strong preparation in pedagogy and child development from infancy through adolescence, with study related to each of the academic domains addressed in prekindergarten through 12th grade.

4. Disciplines are usually written to be more inclusive not exclusive when options are given. The term P-12 (Preschool) is replacing K-12 throughout California schools. Our Disciplines List must respond to the workplace of the future. A Master's Degree in ECE or Child Development must be included in the minimum qualifications in order to make this new discipline relevant.

FYI, there is currently an education discipline that does allow child development faculty to be instructors. While this discipline would not be eliminated it is anticipated that the new discipline would ultimately supersede the old discipline in the TMC model.

For your reference you can find out the details of the Disciplines List revision process at

<http://www.asccc.org/disciplines-list>

Joel Gordon, President