

TITLE PAGE

TITLE OF SUBMISSION:

Program Design To Reflect A Change Of Teacher Certification In Arkansas

TOPIC AREA OF THE SUBMISSION:

Reports on Issues Related to Teaching Education

KEY WORDS DESCRIBING SUBMISSION:

Certification, Teacher Preparation

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ABSTRACT

A CHANGE OF TEACHER CERTIFICATION IN ARKANSAS

Five years ago, legislators in both the House and Senate of the state of Arkansas along with the State Department of Education deemed it necessary to change teacher certification in the state. Up until this time, teacher certification had been a very typical certification of grades 1-6 (which, with specialty areas could include teaching through grades 7 & 8), and 7-12. There were many add-on certifications for Jr. High School, Mathematics, English, Science, Special Education, Home Economics, Health, etc. The change did away with these older certifications and created new certifications for grades P-4, 4-8 and 7-12. With certification change came the re-vamping of all Teacher Education programs from every university in the state of Arkansas.

Henderson State University, founded in 1890, has had a reputation over the years for graduating exemplary teachers. A reason for this is because the university has remained current on research in education and on the cutting edge of teacher preparation. An example of this was their unique block scheduling of method courses allowing pre-service teachers to actually teach in the public schools prior to internship (student teaching).

With the new certifications in the state, Teachers College Henderson collaborated

with the other schools within the university (liberal arts, business, fine arts, etc.) and invited them to become an integral part in the preparation of teachers. While Teachers College Henderson remains as the primary source for teacher preparation – pedagogy, Methods, internship, other areas are now taking part in the teaching of specific content areas and even some content area methods.

This presentation will report on the mandated changes for Teacher Certification in the state of Arkansas and how Teachers College Henderson has changed their Teacher Education program to meet these certifications and the needs of new teachers throughout the state. A question and answer time will follow the presentation.

August 15, 2002

Hawaii International Conference on Education
P.O. Box 75036
Honolulu, Hawaii 96836

Dear Madam or Sir:

Enclosed please find a proposal for presentation at the Hawaii International Conference on Education, scheduled for the 7th-10th of January 2003. I feel this proposal is quite timely and informative regarding the state of education in Arkansas.

Thank you for your attention. I look forward to hearing from you in a positive manner.

Sincerely,

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