



TO: Committee on Academic Policy and Programs

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DATE: November 6, 2008

AGENDA ITEM: 6

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

School of Graduate Studies / Ontario Institute for Studies in Education: Closure of the Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) degree in the Developmental Psychology and Education Program

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

The Committee on Academic Policy and Program has authority for approval of changes within established degree programs that can be accomplished with existing resources.

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

HIGHLIGHTS:

Within the Department of Human Development and Applied Psychology, there have been numerous discussions about the feasibility of maintaining a distinct Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) program, given the small number of applications each year to the program and the increasing demand for other degree programs, such as the rapidly-growing M.Ed. program and the flexible-time PhD. The recently introduced flexible time Ph.D. option provides an effective and desirable path for both future researchers and professional practitioners. Currently, most students aiming to pursue doctoral study concurrent with their professional careers enroll in the flexible time Ph.D. program.

The Department therefore proposes to discontinue the Ed.D. in Developmental Psychology and Education program when there are no more students registered in it. Currently there are two students in the program. The proposed closure of the program has been approved by the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education Council on April 16, 2008 and by the School of Graduate Studies Graduate Education Council on May 20, 2008.

FINANCIAL AND/OR PLANNING IMPLICATIONS: N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs recommend to Academic Board:

THAT the proposal from the School of Graduate Studies and the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education to cease admission to the Developmental Psychology and Education Ed.D. program be approved effective immediately and,

THAT the closure of the Developmental Psychology and Education Ed.D. program be approved, effective when no students are registered in it, and THAT the entry for the program be removed from the School of Graduate Studies calendar on a permanent basis.