

VII. STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Establishment of the Graduate Certificate in Second and Foreign Language TeachingRECOMMENDED ACTION

It is the recommendation of the administration and the Academic and Student Affairs Committee that the Board of Regents grant authority to the Second Language Studies Graduate School Interdisciplinary Committee to offer the Graduate Certificate in Second and Foreign Language Teaching, effective Autumn Quarter 2012. The certificate program will have provisional status with a review to be scheduled for the 2017-2018 academic year. At such time that continuing status is granted, a ten-year review cycle would begin.

BACKGROUND

In May, 2011, the Graduate School received a full proposal from the graduate faculty of the Second Language Studies Graduate School Interdisciplinary Committee requesting authority to offer the Graduate Certificate in Second and Foreign Language Teaching. Implementation is planned for Autumn Quarter 2012.

The Graduate Certificate in Second and Foreign Language Teaching will provide graduate students with an opportunity to develop professional and academic expertise in second or foreign language teaching. Currently, doctoral and master's students who graduate from programs in literature or area studies often lack any formal background to prepare them for university faculty positions that involve language teaching or directing language programs. This 18-credit certificate will provide additional professional preparation by offering training related to second language acquisition, teaching methods, and language analysis through a combination of coursework and a capstone project. The certificate will give students a higher degree of expertise and marketability for positions involving language teaching or language program administration, and will thus have a positive impact on the quality of programs of instruction in second and foreign languages nationwide.

The program will remain fiscally neutral by leveraging existing staff resources in the Language Learning Center and by using courses that are regularly offered by faculty across the University. Faculty involved with the program come from six departments in the College of Arts & Sciences and from the College of Education.

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The Graduate School Council met on May 3, 2012, to discuss the certificate proposal. The Council recommended that the program be forwarded on to the Board of Regents for final approval. The Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School concurred with this recommendation.

The Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School and the Provost have reviewed and approved the recommendation to approve the Graduate Certificate in Second and Foreign Language Teaching.