



# The University of North Carolina

General Administration  
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## MEMORANDUM

TO: Committee on Educational Planning, Policies, and Programs

FROM: President Thomas W. Ross

DATE: July 23, 2012

SUBJECT: Licensure of Winthrop University

The Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina is charged under North Carolina General Statute Section 116-15 with responsibility for licensing nonpublic educational institutions to conduct post-secondary degree activity in North Carolina. In November 2004, the Board of Governors approved revisions to the document, *Rules and Standards for Licensing Nonpublic Institutions to Conduct Post-Secondary Degree Activity in North Carolina*. This document provides the guidelines for interpreting the standards, and the rules, regulations, and procedures under which the Board issues licenses to institutions to conduct post-secondary degree activity in North Carolina.

Winthrop University has applied for licensure to offer the following degree programs in Charlotte, NC:

- Master of Education (M.Ed.) in Counseling and Development
- Master of Education (M.Ed.) in Curriculum and Instruction

Dr. Frank Prochaska reviewed the application and appointed a team of examiners to determine if Winthrop University complied with the licensure standards outlined in the *Rules and Standards*. On September 20, 2010, the team of examiners visited the Winthrop University campus. Following the visit, the team of examiners issued its report which contained recommendations. For more details on the degree programs and report, please review the summary.

Thus, I recommend to the Committee on Educational Planning, Policies, and Programs of the UNC Board of Governors that a regular license be issued to Winthrop University to offer the above-named degree programs in Charlotte, subject to annual reports and review at any time. The programs will be reviewed within two calendar years of the initiation in North Carolina to judge whether the institution continues to maintain standards for licensure.

Enclosure: Summary

## SUMMARY OF VISIT OF TEAM OF EXAMINERS FOR WINTHROP UNIVERSITY

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Winthrop University, a South Carolina four-year public institution established in 1886 and located in Rock Hill, has applied for licensure to offer two new master's degree programs in Charlotte for Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools at the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Education Center and the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Professional Development Center. Winthrop University is currently licensed to offer the following three master's degree programs in Charlotte for Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools:

- Master of Education (M.Ed.) in Educational Leadership
- Master of Education (M.Ed.) in Middle Level Education
- Master of Education (M.Ed.) in Special Education

Winthrop University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). The Teacher Education Program at Winthrop University is accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE).

### THE APPLICATION AND SITE VISIT

Winthrop University has applied for licensure to offer the following two new degree programs for Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools at the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Education Center and the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Professional Development Center in Charlotte:

- Master of Education (M.Ed.) in Counseling and Development
- Master of Education (M.Ed.) in Curriculum and Instruction

In accordance with the *Rules and Standards: Licensing Nonpublic Institutions to Conduct Post-Secondary Degree Activity in North Carolina*, Dr. Frank Prochaska, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs at UNC General Administration, appointed a team of examiners to visit the institution on September 20, 2010 and evaluate its compliance with the licensure standards. In addition to the two proposed degree programs, the three currently-licensed degree programs offered by Winthrop in Charlotte were also reviewed on this site visit.

The team of examiners with expertise in the specific disciplines relating to the application was comprised of:

- Dr. Richard E. Neel (Chair), Dean Emeritus, Belk College of Business, and Professor of Economics Emeritus, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Charlotte, North Carolina
- Betty Epanchin, Professor Emeritus and former Associate Dean of Teacher Education and School Relationships, and former Director of the Teachers Academy, School of Education, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Greensboro, North Carolina
- Karen Gavigan, Assistant Professor, School of Library and Information Science, University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina

- Dr. John A. Swope, Associate Dean, College of Education, and Associate Professor of Education, East Carolina University, Greenville, North Carolina
- Dr. Frank Prochaska, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, The University of North Carolina General Administration, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, *Ex Officio*

The team's task was to review the application and accompanying appendices and to participate in the site visit to determine if the institution demonstrated compliance with licensure standards. Either prior to the visit or during the visit, many additional items of documentation were reviewed by the team including curricula for the proposed degree programs, course syllabi, faculty educational credentials, library and electronic resources, educational facilities, instructional resources, budget data, audited financial statements, enrollment information, and Winthrop University's 2009-2010 "Vision of Distinction," 2009-2010 Graduate Catalog, and *Faculty Manual*.

During the visit, the team of examiners met with numerous administrators, faculty, staff, and students of Winthrop University.

In addition to the site visit described above, the chair of the team of examiners visited the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Education Center and the Professional Development Center.

## **PROPOSED DEGREE PROGRAMS**

### Master of Education (M.Ed.) in Counseling and Development

This M.Ed. in Counseling and Development degree program offers two concentrations: Community Counseling, and School Counseling. Each concentration track is comprised of 27 semester credit hours of required core courses, 12 semester hours of specialized courses, and three semester hours of approved electives. The program requires a total of 51 semester credit hours, including nine semester hours of professional clinical experiences.

### Master of Education (M.Ed.) in Curriculum and Instruction

This M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction degree program offers two areas of specialization: Educational Technology, and Teaching and Learning. Each specialization track is comprised of nine semester credit hours of professional core courses, 15 semester hours of curriculum and instruction core courses, and 12 semester hours of specialization courses. The program requires a total of 36 semester credit hours.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

After the site visit, the *Preliminary Report to the President of The University of North Carolina from the Team of Examiners for the Licensure Visit to Review Winthrop University's Proposed and Licensed Master's Degree Programs in Charlotte, North Carolina* was submitted. In the report, the team of examiners included four recommendations addressing the five degree programs reviewed. The recommendations addressed issues of faculty credentials and information to be included in the Graduate Catalog.

## APPENDIX G

The team of examiners concludes its report by stating it would make its recommendations to the General Administration of The University of North Carolina regarding licensure of the two proposed degree programs after it receives the response from Winthrop University to the recommendations contained in the report.

After receiving the team of examiners' report, Winthrop University responded to the recommendations. All of the recommendations have been implemented to the satisfaction of the team of examiners.

After reviewing the institution's response, the team of examiners recommends that Winthrop University be licensed to offer the two new master's degree programs requested.

Dr. Frank Prochaska agrees with the team's review and recommendations. Thus, General Administration recommends licensure of the following proposed degree programs, to be offered at the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Education Center and the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Professional Development Center in Charlotte: Master of Education (M.Ed.) in Counseling and Development, and Master of Education (M.Ed.) in Curriculum and Instruction.

A site visit will be performed within two calendar years of the initiation of these new degree programs, by a team of examiners with expertise in the field, to ascertain Winthrop University's compliance with the *Rules and Standards*, including the recommendations contained in the report.