Members, Board of Trustees:

CHANGE IN DEGREE

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees approve a change in the name of the Master of Science in Vocational Education to Master of Science in Career, Technical, and Leadership Education and approve the creation of a non-teaching option, effective in the fall 2005 semester.

Background: In the past, responsibility for the Vocational Education program was shared by the College of Education, the College of Agriculture, and the College of Human Environmental Sciences. With the merger of the College of Agriculture and the College of Human Environmental Sciences, as well as the transfer of the undergraduate vocational education program from the College of Education to the College of Agriculture several years ago, the two remaining colleges affiliated with this program are in agreement that the College of Agriculture should become the degree-granting college.

The creation of the College of Agriculture’s Department of Community and Leadership Development has brought together faculty from rural sociology, agricultural communications, agricultural education, and program and staff development, providing a new opportunity to strengthen the graduate program. The proposed name change reflects ongoing changes in the field where the national trend is moving away from vocational education to career and technical education. Historically, approximately a third of the students in the program have not been classroom teachers seeking certification. The formalization of the non-teaching option will be of interest to the students employed by the Cooperative Extension Service or other government agencies and organizations.

This proposal has the approval of the Graduate Council, Senate Council, and University Senate. The Provost of the university supports this recommendation.

Action taken: ☑ Approved   ☐ Disapproved   ☐ Other ____________________________