

# AACR 3

Office of the President  
April 22, 2008

Members, Board of Trustees:

## CHANGE IN NAME OF A DEGREE – COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees approve a change in the name of the Doctor of Education degree with a major in Special Education to Doctor of Philosophy with a major in Special Education, effective in the spring 2008 semester.

Background: The primary rationale for this proposed change is to strengthen the research requirements within the Special Education and Rehabilitation Counseling doctoral program and to reflect the program's emphasis on research.

This proposal is designed to improve the abilities of doctoral program graduates to apply scientifically rigorous research designs. The skill set is essential for preparing research grant proposals submitted to the U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, and other funding agencies supporting research in Special Education, Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education, and Rehabilitation Counseling.

Graduate students from Special Education and Rehabilitation Counseling have a noteworthy record of scholarship including over 240 refereed publications since 1985. With the addition of the research internship, doctoral students from the proposed program will be better prepared to contribute higher numbers of research publications and presentations compared to previous students.

This proposal aligns with UK's new Strategic Plan and the emphases placed on increasing the number of doctorates awarded and increasing research productivity among graduate students.

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

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Action taken:     Approved     Disapproved     Other \_\_\_\_\_