

**W** UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON | TACOMA  
EDUCATION

To: James Antony  
Associate Vice Provost and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs  
The Graduate School

J.W. Harrington  
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs  
Office of the Chancellor, UW Tacoma

From: Kären Landenburger, Director UW Tacoma Education Program  
Re: Response to December 2, 2011 Graduate Program Review Report  
Date: January 21, 2012

The University of Washington Tacoma Education Program wishes to thank the review committee for the thoughtful assessment of the University of Washington Education Program. The faculty and staff of the program appreciate the insights about current programs and future growth offered in the review. The report will serve as a guide as we expand our program. We accept recommendations as written but would like to offer some areas of clarification.

The recommendations made about the Teacher Certification Program are helpful. At this point in time there are similar courses between the K-8 general education and K-8 special education. In addition, there are a minority of courses that are taught for one certification option only. If we were to drop one of the options we would most likely experience a decrease in applicants jeopardizing the economic survival of the program. We are currently restructuring our general K-8 programs to offer a K-8 general and special education option as well as a K-8 general and English language learners (ELL) option. Although this restructuring will not result in fewer courses for teacher certification, the change may increase the number of students enrolled in ELL teacher certification and ELL endorsement only making better use of our teaching resources. Both special education and English language learners are high need areas and meet the needs of South Puget Sound school districts. In addition, a majority of our faculty have expertise and research that fit well with these areas of practice.

We appreciate the comments on program leadership. The program faculty and staff have worked thoughtfully to develop an infrastructure that supports mutual respect and creates a collaborative environment. We plan to continue to strengthen our mentoring system for assistant and associate professors. In addition, as a small program we will remain cognizant of the increased demands placed on full professors and continue to meet their teaching and research needs.

The program faculty and staff are particularly thankful for the comments about the development of an Ed.D. degree program. We are striving, especially during these stressful economic times, to evaluate the challenges and constraints of such growth and make changes as necessary.

*Kären M. Landenburger*