

Conceptual Framework Adoption Notices and Comments

In 2003, the Unit's conceptual framework emphasized preparing teachers and other school personnel to educate a K-12 student population. The revised conceptual framework addresses the preparation of other school professionals as well by way of our advanced level programs. Six additional proficiencies were added to the list of outcomes entitled Skills: Facilitators of Learning to delineate that graduates will facilitate school improvement, model best practices for teaching and learning, demonstrate competence as action researchers, demonstrate proficiency in the application of research findings, model best practices for implementing reading specific to the content area, and advocate for Literacy and Numeracy across the curriculum. The overarching concept was added that graduates will ultimately become Catalysts for Change in their educational settings. The mantra was changed from "Protecting the Heritage: Cultivating Knowledgeable, Skilled, and Compassionate Educators and Community Leaders "In the Place Where Everybody is Somebody" to "Producing Knowledgeable, Skilled, and Compassionate Educators and Other School Professionals "Where Everybody is Somebody."

The use of an integrated and systematic assessment of the curriculum, instruction and impact on student learning has become more viable. Instead of just focusing on what our graduates have learned and can do, emphasis is placed highly on the graduates' impact on student learning. This impact is validated by the graduates' portfolios and artifacts of their students' work.

Finally, the tree graphic representation was revised in order to make it known that continual emphasis on rigorous program delivery as well as assessment of feedback for program improvement are vital entities mandated by Grambling State University College of Education's Conceptual Framework. This feedback is depicted by the leaves becoming a part of the soil (foundation) and then sending nutrients (graduates) back up through the tree (programs) to recycle continual productivity in K-12 schools and in the global society. With the interaction of the knowledge, skills and professional dispositions that our graduates acquire, they indeed become Catalysts for Change, our new overarching outcome. The new tree graphic also includes the name changes for the Departments of Curriculum and Instruction and Kinesiology, Sport and Leisure Studies; as well as the inclusion of additional standards for advanced programs under Facilitators of Learning.