

October 11, 2006

To the College Community:

I am writing to thank you for all of your efforts over the past three years to support our new Department of Education, as well as to share some changes we're making to enhance the program. Given your participation and support thus far, I believe it's important that you have a thorough understanding of our growth and future direction.

To that end, I'd like to first share with you a bit of history and background.

Three years ago, the College community united to support the Education program as a new department to be housed at the Damon City Campus. We specifically chose the Damon City Campus because it is home to the majority of our service-oriented programs such as Criminal Justice and Human Services. In addition, its location was especially appropriate for preparing teachers to teach in an urban setting – which, according to overwhelming national data, is where the majority of future career opportunities will lie. Judging from the highly positive response we've garnered from transfer institutions as well as the community, we made the right decision.

As our Education department grew, we continued to create and refine the infrastructure necessary for long-term success. We hired faculty, established solid curricular learning outcomes, developed partnerships with the community, and networked with transfer institutions.

Now it is time for the next level of growth. Beginning in Spring 2007, the following strategies will be implemented:

- offered for non-EDU majors. EDU majors will take these courses at DCC.
- New EDU majors will be required to meet with an advisor prior to registering.
- All SPA 122 and 123 (Spanish for Teachers) will be taught at DCC.
- SCI 131 and 132 (Science for Elementary Teachers) will continue to be offered at DCC only.
- There will be intensified efforts to collaborate with admissions/transfer offices at area four-year colleges/universities.
- There will be intensified, on-going training of MCC student services personnel and faculty advisors to provide a thorough understanding of EDU degrees and student needs. Training will include information about the importance of matriculating into the EDU degree vs. LA04.

The following strategies will also be implemented in Fall 2007:

- All EDU courses beyond EDU 100 (150, 200, and 208) will be offered at DCC only. This information will be communicated to students through various routes, including course info sheet and a letter from Admissions, Advisement and Registration.
- In order to register for any EDU courses beyond EDU 100, students must be matriculated in an EDU degree.
- Students must be matriculated in one of the EDU degrees in order to take MTH 155 or MTH 156, SPA 122 or SPA 123, SCI 131 or SCI 132 at DCC.
- The Admissions office will inform potential students of the above changes.
- Offerings from the DCC Campus Center related to EDU majors will be expanded.

In the next few weeks, Kate Marhatta and Barbara Connolly will be visiting various College offices and departments to clarify this information and to discuss its implications. Meanwhile, feel free to contact Barbara at 262-1616 or Kate at 262-1462.

I want to again express my gratitude to the College community for all of your hard work in getting our newest department off to an excellent start. With your continued support, we are confident that our Education department will continue to flourish and to graduate well-prepared teachers for the next generation of children and parents.

Sincerely,

Janet J. Glocker
Vice-President, Academic Services