



The University of Georgia

College of Education

Department of Workforce Education, Leadership and Social Foundations

April 14, 2009

Note to prospective participants:

We are pleased that you are considering enrolling in the online leadership preparation program provided by the Department of Workforce Education, Leadership and Social Foundations (WELSF). It is our belief that this program provides the instruction and learning opportunities needed to appropriately prepare participants for building-level administrative positions in school settings.

As you are probably aware, the GA Professional Standards Commission (PSC) has implemented new certification guidelines with respect to the initial licensure of school administrators. The L5 certification has been replaced with a non-renewable NL5 licensure. While the L5 certificate required completion of an approved program of study for the PSC to issue certification, the new rules give students the option to receive the non-renewable NL5 certification solely on successful completion of the GACE. Although a program of study is encouraged, it is no longer necessary for the NL5 certification. We would like all students to be aware of this test out option prior to entering our program.

In the past, the UGA WELSF online leadership program resulted in participants being certified with the L5 licensure. Beginning with the 2009 summer cohort, however, there will be no certification directly tied to completion of our program since the NL5 may be acquired through successful completion of the GACE exam. Also, since the program of study we provide here at UGA is designed to develop school leadership knowledge and skills, we highly recommend it for that purpose as well as for GACE preparation. **Completion of a program like the one we offer is not a requirement to acquire NL5 certification.**

Please let us know if there are additional items of information that we can provide to you at this juncture. We are looking forward to working with you over the next three semesters and hope that the experiences we provide will be helpful to you in your present and future work.

Cordially,

Roger Hill
Professor & Department Head