



The University of Georgia

Department of Language Education
English Education
Language Arts and Children's Literature
Teaching Additional Languages

College of Education
School of Teacher Education

125 Aderhold Hall
Athens, Georgia 30602-7123
Telephone (706) 542-5674
Fax (706) 542-4509
e-mail: langed@coe.uga.edu
www.coe.uga.edu/language

Date: April 1, 2004

To: Dr. Louis A. Castenell Jr., Dean, College of Education

From: Joel Taxel, Department Head, Department of Language Education *JT*

Re: Dissolution of the Department of Department of Language Education

Please consider this as a request from the Department of Department of Language Education to voluntarily dissolve. On (March 30, 2004) the vote on the motion to dissolve the department was

Yes: 13

No: 0

Abstain: 1

The vote to dissolve the department is based on the assumption that all courses, programs and majors in the Department of Department of Language Education will be transferred to the proposed new Department of Department of Language and Literacy Education as indicated in the attached Name Change Justification Form. No curricular changes accompany this request to dissolve the department.

Enc.



The University of Georgia

College of Education
Department of Reading Education

April 06, 2004

To: Louis A. Castenell Jr., Dean, Dean, College of Education
From: Linda D. Labbo, Professor & Department Head, Department of Reading Education *LL*
Re: Dissolution of the Department of Reading Education

Please consider this as a request from the Department of Reading Education to voluntarily dissolve. On April 6, 2004 the vote on the motion to dissolve the department was

Yes	6
No	0
Abstain	0

The vote to dissolve the department is based on the assumption that all courses, programs and majors in the Department of Reading Education will be transferred to the proposed new Department of Language and Literacy Education in the attached Name Change Justification Form. No curricular changes accompany this request to dissolve the department.

Enc.

NAME CHANGE JUSTIFICATION FORM

School/College: College of Education

Name: N/A

Proposed Name: N/A

Department Name Changes:

Current Department Name:
Department of Language Education
Department of Reading Education

Proposed Department Name:
Department of Language and Literacy Education
Department of Language and Literacy Education

Major Name Changes:

Current Major Name:	Degree:	Proposed Major	Degree:
<u>Language Education</u>	<u>Ph.D.</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>
<u>English Education</u>	<u>B.S.Ed.</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>
	<u>M.Ed.</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>
	<u>MA</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>
	<u>Ed.S.</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>
<u>Foreign Language Education</u>	<u>B.S.Ed.</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>
<u>Teaching Additional Languages</u>	<u>M.Ed.</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>
	<u>Ed.S.</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>
<u>Reading Education</u>	<u>M.Ed.</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>
	<u>MA</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>
	<u>Ed.S.</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>
	<u>Ed.D.</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>
	<u>Ph.D.</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>

Minor Name Change:

Current Minor Name:	Degree:	Proposal Minor Name:	Degree
<u>Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>

Prefix Changes:

A prefix change package should be submitted after name change has been approved.

Current Prefix:	Department:	Proposed Prefix:	Department:
<u>ELAN</u>	<u>Language Education</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>
<u>READ</u>	<u>Reading Education</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>

JUSTIFICATION: See Attached



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February 27, 2004

Dr. Louis Castenell
Dean, College of Education
Aderhold Hall
Athens, GA 30602

Dear Dean Castenell,

This is to indicate the unanimous support of faculty in the Departments of Language and Reading Education for the formation of a Department of Language and Literacy Education. We are confident that the combination of our two nationally ranked departments offers tremendous possibilities for creative synergies for instructional programs, research, and outreach and that our new department has the potential to be the finest in the nation.

As we explain in the accompanying document, our merger makes tremendous sense from a disciplinary perspective. In fact, over the years, many have expressed surprise to us that a merger between our departments was not effected a long time ago. More to the point, our faculties have long been engaged in an extremely productive variety of instructional, scholarly, and outreach activities.

We have been quite proactive in terms of paving the way for the anticipated merger of our departments. Our faculty already has had a number of meetings in which we have discussed the outlines of the merger, selected a name for our new department, and adopted the decision making procedures that have been utilized, to great effect, in Language Education for approximately the past six years (procedures recently adopted by the College of Education Leadership team). We also have formed committees that are at work addressing issues related to merging of the "governance," "culture," "personnel," and "programs" of our new department. The secretarial staffs of our departments also have scheduled a meeting at which they will draw up a plan for the smooth and efficient operation of the new Department of Language and Literacy Education. We also have encouraged our graduate students to meet and discuss common concerns.

In closing, faculty of the proposed Department of Language and Literacy Education eagerly anticipate the opportunities that the merger will afford us. Please let us know if you would like us to provide additional information.

Sincerely,

Linda Labbo
Chair, Department of Reading Education

Joel Taxel
Chair, Department of Language Education

Merger Proposal: Department of Language and Literacy Education

I. Proposed name of new department

The Department of Language and Literacy Education

II. Current departments and programs affected

Department of Language Education and Reading Education

III. Academic rationale for merger

Faculty in the Departments of Reading Education and Language Education have agreed to merge forming the Department of Language and Literacy Education. We are confident that we can forge a new culture that will enhance our existing programs and begin conceptualizing new ones that build on the strengths of our nationally and internationally renowned faculty and students. There are many compelling reasons for this merger.

One powerful indication of the compatibility of these programs is the common ground for professional organizations and journals. Reading Education has housed two top-tier literacy journals (*Journal of Literacy Research* and *Reading Research Quarterly*). Faculty in both Children's Literature and English Education have published in both journals in recent years. Similarly, the current Language Education Department has housed the top-tier journal, *Research in the Teaching of English*. Faculty from all four programs in Reading and Language Education have published in *Research in the Teaching of English*. Faculty from both existing departments are also members of the same national/international organizations and are regular presenters and participants at their conferences. These include the conferences sponsored by The National Council of Teachers of English, The International Reading Association, The National Reading Conference, and the American Educational Research Association. Members of both departments also are members, fellows, and past officers of the NCRL (National Conference on Research in Language and Literacy), an organization whose membership spans The National Council of Teachers of English and The International Reading Association. Faculty from both departments recently have collaborated to launch the Red Clay Writing Project at UGA, again suggesting common interests and pursuits. In the past, faculty from both departments were instrumental in bringing the federally funded National Reading Research Center to UGA.

Academic underpinnings are plentiful between Reading Education and Language Education. Both departments have programs that address literacy acquisition, development, and instruction (K-adult). Both faculties are deeply committed to research, service, and instruction that fosters a multilingual, multicultural society. While faculty possess a rich range of philosophical and

epistemological stances to under gird research and practice, socio-cognitive, socio-cultural, critical, and postmodern theories are shared across departments and programs. For example, a recent Spencer-funded collaboration between two faculty members, JoBeth Allen & Linda Labbo, was based on socio-cultural perspectives on literacy instruction. The PhOLKS Project involved in home-to-school photography, narrative, mediated learning through collaborative endeavors with classroom teachers from local school districts, as well as a shared cohort of undergraduate preservice teachers. Faculty frequently serve on cross-departmental doctoral dissertation committees.

Combining these departments offers tremendous possibilities for creative synergies for instructional programs, research, and outreach. We believe that our new Department of Language and Literacy Education has the very real potential to be the finest in the nation.

IV. Names of all programs in proposed department

Children's Literature and Language Arts, English Education, Reading Education, Teaching Additional Languages, Foreign Language Education and TESOL programs.

V. Number of undergraduate and graduate students enrolled in each department fall semester, 2003

- a. Language Education: 212 undergraduate; 181 graduate
- b. Reading Education: 52 graduate

VI. Names of all faculty in proposed department

JoBeth Allen, Donna Alvermann, James Baumann, Melisa Cahnmann, Michelle Commeyras, Linda DeGross, Mark Faust, Robert Fecho, Margaret Graham, Linda Harklau, Linda Labbo, Joanne Ratliff, Betsy Rymes, Peter Smagorinsky, Donald Rubin (1/2 time), Elizabeth St. Pierre, Joel Taxel

VII. Names of all staff in the proposed department

Dianne Fields, Joy Fulmer, Jennifer Guyton, Becky Hendren, DeAnna Palmer, Marianne Roberts