



July 21, 2006

Mr. Steve Stegink  
Higher Education Coordinator  
Office of Professional Preparation Services  
Michigan Department of Education  
608 W. Allegan Street  
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Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Steve:

I am writing to provide University of Detroit Mercy's response to the review panel's recommendations regarding our Elementary Integrated Science endorsement program as dated June 28, 2006.

Reviewers indicated that our program did not meet the following standards:

∞ *1.7.4 astronomy*

Reviewers were concerned because only one of two elective options met this standard. Obviously, if a teacher candidate were to choose the other elective, they would not have the coursework to support the meeting of this standard. We addressed this by removing the option of selecting one of two courses. All Elementary teacher education candidates, whether they have Integrated Science majors or minors, must now take PHY 108, which clearly addresses this standard. We have revised our Form XX and Standards Matrix to reflect this.

∞ *Standard 10 demonstrate competence in the practice of teaching using investigative experiences...*

We addressed the lack of narrative for the group major by revising the text in the Standards Matrix. It should now be clearer to reviewers how teacher candidates with a group major meet this standard.

Additionally, reviewers were concerned that Endorsement Only candidates would not have coursework to support Standard C, Standard 6.0, Standard 7.0, and Standard 8.0; standards traditionally met through the required methods courses. University of Detroit Mercy policy has changed to reflect this criticism. Any Elementary certified person seeking to add an Elementary

content endorsement must take the corresponding Elementary methods course, if it was not taken at University of Detroit Mercy previously. This will help UDM insure that all teacher candidates it recommends for certification have had the necessary coursework to support the standards.

Per the request of the reviewers, we have also revised our Form XX to more clearly identify the coursework and number of credits required for both the group major and the group minor.

We have also clarified and revised our narrative around the early field experiences required of all UDM teacher candidates. This revised narrative can be found in our “Collaborations/Partnerships” document.

Also in response to reviewer comments, we have provided the requested information about the faculty member teaching Geography 211. This information can be found in the Instructional Faculty table.

Our response for Elementary Integrated Science, dated July 21, 2006, can be viewed at:  
<http://www.udmercy.edu/accredreport/science.html>

We look forward to receiving comments from reviewers and the Michigan Department of Education regarding our Elementary Integrated Science endorsement program.

Sincerely,

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