



**TO:** Timothy Boosinger  
Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs

**THROUGH:** George Flowers *George T. Flowers*  
Dean of the Graduate School

**THROUGH:** Betty Lou Whitford *Betty Lou Whitford*  
Dean of the College of Education

**FROM:** Sherida Downer *SD*  
Department Chair, Educational Foundations, Leadership, Technology

**DATE:** February 16, 2016

**SUBJECT:** Item for the Board of Trustees – Proposed Graduate Certificate in Instructional Leadership

We are writing to request that the following item be added to the Board of Trustees' agenda for their next meeting.

**Proposal:** The College of Education is proposing a Graduate Certificate in Instructional Leadership.

**Review and Consultation:** The proposed graduate certificate program in Instructional Leadership is a response to a policy change in the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) relative to professional educator certification. ALSDE now allows those educators who hold a valid Alabama master's level (Class A) Professional Educator Certificate and who meet all requirements for admission to AU's MEd degree program in Instructional Leadership to be recommended for a master's level (Class A) administrative certificate in Instructional Leadership based on a state-approved reduced hour option that includes at minimum 18 hours of coursework. AU's reduced hour option was approved by the State Superintendent of Education in October 2014 and includes 18 hours of coursework currently offered by the Department of Educational Foundations, Leadership and Technology.

**Recommendation:** It is recommended that the proposed Graduate Certificate in Instructional Leadership be approved and forwarded to the Auburn University Board of Trustees for review and approval.