BACKGROUND AND RECOMMENDATION

LAKE ERIE COLLEGE
Adolescent to Young Adult (AYA) License – Life Sciences (grades 7-12)

RECOMMENDATION

Lake Erie College's Adolescent to Young Adult (AYA) licensure program in life sciences meets the Chancellor's requirements for academic programs and the State Board of Education's minimum standards. Approval is recommended for a three-year period, until 2013. In addition, it should be noted that the program is subject to periodic review by the Chancellor to ensure that the standards for Ohio licensure continue to be met.

Request: Lake Erie College requests approval for a program of study leading to an Adolescent to Young Adult (AYA) license in life sciences. Students receive a Bachelor of Arts in Education at the completion of the program. The program may also be completed as a post-baccalaureate program for students with the relevant academic preparation.

Accreditation/Authorization: The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association (HLC) regionally accredits the institution. Lake Erie College is authorized by the Chancellor for a time period to coincide with next review by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association (HLC) in 2011.

Background: Lake Erie College is a private, non-profit university of nearly 1200 students located in Painesville, Ohio. The college was founded in 1856 as a female seminary. Currently LEC offers 33 undergraduate degree programs and two masters' degrees (education and business). LEC is approved to provide teacher preparation programs leading to licensure in early childhood education, middle childhood education, and a special education/intervention specialist program. The college recently expanded its teacher preparation programs to adolescent and young adult education (grades 7 -12).

To obtain initial licensure as a grade seven through twelve (7-12) life sciences teacher in Ohio, teacher candidates must complete a program of study in their life science concentration (biology) that is equivalent to at least an academic major. Students also complete education foundation and pedagogy courses. The state of Ohio also requires all AYA candidates to complete three (3) semester hours of reading that connects literacy instruction to the candidate's specific content area specialization. In addition, the Ohio Department of Education mandates that all licensure areas provide evidence that teacher candidates understand the principles of value-added instruction and assessment. Teacher candidates are required to complete a "value-added" project during their clinical experience of student teaching which is designed to demonstrate their ability to impact student learning. Candidates for the AYA – Life Sciences license must pass the PRAXIS II Content and Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT) examinations required by the state.

Curriculum: The Adolescent to Young Adult (AYA) program for Life Sciences at Lake Erie College (LEC) has been designed to meet the standards for the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) Life Sciences teaching license and is aligned with the standards established by the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA). The program requires 50 semester hours in the appropriate content areas (biology, chemistry, physics, geology, etc.), 19 semester hours in the education foundations core, 9 credit hours in the core AYA program education courses and 16 clinical/field experience hours. Students complete a senior capstone course as part of the core science requirements.

Recommendation: Lake Erie College's Adolescent to Young Adult (AYA) licensure program in life science meets the Chancellor's requirements for academic programs and the State Board of Education's minimum standards. Approval is recommended for a three-year period, until 2013. In addition, it should be noted that the program is subject to periodic review by the Chancellor to ensure that the standards for Ohio licensure continue to be met.

End of Comment Period: June 28, 2010
No comments received, recommend conditional approval

APPROVED

8/9/10 MK

Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor — Date