

Date: September 12, 2008
To: Provosts/Vice Presidents of Academic Affairs
From: Keith O. Boyum, Associate Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs *Keith O. Boyum*
Subject: Clarification of CSU Plans for Expanding Career and Technical Studies
(Follow Up to AA-2008-22)

Update on CSU Vocational, Career, and Technical Studies Programs

The June 12, 2008 coded memorandum (AA-2008-22¹) regarding the five remaining Bachelor of Vocational Education programs has caused some to ask about the California State University's commitment to preparing teachers for vocational and career and technical studies programs. In response, this memo updates the CSU community and our constituents as to the status of our sustained efforts to work within legal parameters to meet the state's demand for career and technical educators.

Current CSU Vocational, Career, and Technical Studies Curricula

The CSU offers 17 approved subject matter preparation programs that develop teachers for the areas of agriculture, business, home economics, health sciences, and industrial and technology education. Persons who either complete one of the above subject matter preparation programs or who pass the relevant California Subject Examination for Teachers are qualified to enroll in a chosen credential program. Between 2002 and 2006, the CSU recommended 1,000 teacher credentials in these fields, with approximately 200 credentials having been recommended in 2006 alone. In 2007, the CSU produced 371 new designated subjects teachers for career and technical subjects, and in fall 2008, the CSU will begin offering secondary education teacher preparation programs for education within career-themed secondary school settings.

The CSU will continue to meet student demand for the following three types of vocational and career education programs: **(1) single subject credential programs**, **(2) designated subjects/subject matter credential programs**, and **(3) Bachelor of Arts, Career and Technical Studies**, which will replace the Bachelor of Vocational Education programs. Although these three types of curricula are related in some ways, they attract different student populations, serve different purposes, and typically lead to different career paths.

The descriptions and tables appearing on the following pages provide further information on these three CSU program types.

¹ Posted at <http://www.calstate.edu/acadaff/codedmemos/index.shtml>

(1) Single Subject Credentials in Specific Career Fields

The CSU prepares teachers in the areas of agriculture, business, health sciences, home economics, and industrial and technology education (industrial arts) according to guidelines set forth by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC). In order to earn credentials in these fields, students must hold a bachelor’s degree and must either complete a CTC-approved subject matter program in the respective field or pass the relevant California Subject Examination for Teachers. Candidates must also complete an approved single subject credential program of approximately 40 semester credit hours at one of the 22 CSUs offering such credentials. On average it takes a student already holding a bachelor’s degree up to one year to complete this program. Teachers who hold these credentials typically teach in either a comprehensive high school or in a vocational/career and technical education program at one of 65 regional occupational centers across the state. A history of the credentials earned by CSU students in these single subject fields follows in Table 1.

Table 1

Single Subjects Credentials Produced by the CSU in Agriculture, Business, Health Sciences, Home Economics, and Industrial and Technology Education, 2002-2006 (Preliminary and Intern)

	Agriculture		Business		Health Sciences		Home Economics		Industrial & Technology Education		Total	
	Pre.	Int.	Pre.	Int.	Pre.	Int.	Pre.	Int.	Pre.	Int.	Pre.	Int.
2002-03	42	1	66	37	38	11	12	2	4	1	162	52
2003-04	38	4	72	25	39	23	19	10	5	4	173	66
2004-05	34	0	52	19	52	17	13	3	5	3	156	42
2005-06	50	4	25	11	50	8	10	2	8	6	143	31
2006-07	30	8	25	11	56	14	10	6	10	5	131	44
Total	194	17	240	103	235	73	64	23	32	19	765	235

(2) Designated Subjects Credentials

Designated subjects credentials are earned by persons who wish to teach in one of the approximately 175 career fields that are offered primarily in Regional Occupational Program Centers. Candidates for a designated subjects credential must have earned a high school diploma and must either demonstrate one year of work experience within the last five years in the specific career field in which the credential is sought, or they must have two years of work experience within the last 10 in the salient field. The candidate can apply for a preliminary credential, which allows him or her to teach for three years while completing 9 specified credit hours (or 135 clock hours) in an approved credential program—plus the required one unit in health education and two units (or an examination) in the U.S. Constitution. Acquiring a clear credential requires completion of these requirements, plus four terms of successful teaching. The clear credential allows a designated subjects teacher to continue teaching beyond the initial three years.

Table 2 illustrates the CSU campuses at which career and technical credential programs are offered. Three CSU campuses—Long Beach, San Francisco, and San Bernardino—offer designated subjects credential programs. In 2007, those CSU campuses enrolled all qualified applicants and produced more than 650 new designated subjects teachers, thereby meeting student demand and producing new teachers in response to

workforce needs. Educators holding these credentials typically teach in a regional occupational center, while a smaller number teach in high schools with on-site career and technical education programs.

Table 2
Subject Matter and Designated Subjects Program Sites in the CSU

Program Source	Agriculture	Business	Home Economics	Health Sciences	Industrial and Technology Education	Designated Subjects* Credential
Chico	X			X		
Fresno	X	X	X		X	
Humboldt		X				
Long Beach			X	X		X
Los Angeles					X	
Northridge			x	X		
Pomona	X	X				
Sacramento			X			
San Bernardino						X
San Francisco			X			X
San Luis Obispo	X					
UC	None	None	None	None	None	3
Privates	None	None	2	None	None	None

(3) Bachelor of Vocational Education (BVE)/Career and Technical Studies Degree Programs

CSU BVE programs were first created in 1943 through legislation known as the Swan Act. Over the next 60 years, the needs of California’s workforce, the nature of California’s economy, pedagogical theory, and the infrastructure for higher education have changed greatly. Concern for the CSU’s ability to deliver the highest quality career and technical education degree programs in the changing educational environment inspired a review of existing BVE programs. That review indicated a need for updated curricular requirements and policies, and those changes are now being addressed. We expect that academically rigorous, economically and socially responsive degree programs will be developed, reviewed, and implemented over the coming academic year. Updated programs are expected to enroll new students in the fall of 2009.

The ongoing efforts within these three program types affirm the California State University’s commitment to preparing graduates for a wide range of career and technical education fields, underscoring this institution’s decades-long tradition of integrating academic and applied learning in the interest of enhanced educational and career achievement.

If you wish to discuss any of these issues, please contact the following Chancellor's Office personnel:

Credentials:	Dr. Crystal Gips	cgips@calstate.edu	(562) 951-4703
Bachelor's Degrees:	Dr. Christine Hanson	chanson@calstate.edu	(562) 951-4672

Thank you for your review of this information. The bottom line—and the last word of this memo—is that the CSU does and will continue to work for California in these important fields.

c: Charles B. Reed, Chancellor
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James Blackburn, Director, Enrollment Management Services
Allison Jones, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Student Academic Support
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Deans with Responsibility for BVE Programs
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