April 7, 2005

TO: Maureen Grasso, Dean
    Graduate School

FROM: Kathleen deMarrais

SUBJECT: Request for a New Prefix (QUAL)

The Department of Educational Psychology and Instructional Technology is requesting that the prefix QUAL be approved for use with qualitative research courses which were housed in their department. Since the reorganization of the College, these courses are now housed in the Department of Lifelong Education, Administration, and Policy. This request has the approval of each department and Dean Castenell.

If you have questions after reviewing the attached request, please contact me at Kathleen@uga.edu or 542-6446.

Kd:ct

Attachment
March 29, 2005

Louis Castenell, Jr., Dean
Aderhold G3
College of Education
CAMPUS

Dear Dean Castenell:

We are writing you to ask your support in requesting that the prefix QUAL be approved for use with qualitative research courses that are currently housed in the Department of Educational Psychology. Since the Qualitative Research Program has officially been approved by the Board of Regents to be located in the Department of Lifelong Education, Administration, and Policy, we propose that these courses be moved with the QRP (see attached list of the relevant courses). We have several arguments for this proposal.

1. Qualitative research is an interdisciplinary methodological field of study with a large and growing literature, represented by a sizeable and increasing number of courses, which should have its own designation at the University of Georgia.

2. At UGA we have a certificate program in interdisciplinary qualitative inquiry for graduate students, with nearly 75 graduates or enrollees since it was approved in 2001. Using the QUAL prefix better represents the nature of the courses and will be useful to students on their transcripts. It also indicates that these are courses that serve the College of Education and the University of Georgia as a whole, rather than one or few departments.

3. Because the Qualitative Research Program has moved as a result of the College of Education’s reorganization, it is inappropriate to retain a prefix managed by another department. Likewise, the prefixes available in the proposed LEAP unit are inappropriate for these methodological courses.

4. Because the instructors of qualitative courses are now affiliated with another department housed at River’s Crossing, managing the numerous students taking courses in Qualitative Research will be a burden for staff in the Department of Educational Psychology and Instructional Technology at Aderhold, which we wish to avoid. It currently takes staff time in Educational Psychology to provide POD’s to students, to move students from one section to another where necessary, and to field student calls about their registration process for these courses. Where connections for a course need to be maintained between the two units, as all courses will need for some time and others may need indefinitely, those cross-listings will be requested.
5. We have begun work on a doctoral degree proposal for the qualitative research program, an expansion of the current interdisciplinary certificate program. Part of what we need to do for that effort is to demonstrate the enrollment needs in that area. A separate, and appropriate, prefix would help us do so.

Thank you for your support of these important curriculum decisions.

Sincerely,

Randy W. Kamphaus, Head
Department of Educational Psychology and Instructional Technology

Deborah Bandalos, Program Head
Research, Evaluation, Measurement, and Statistics
Department of Educational Psychology and Instructional Technology

Ronald Cervero, Head
Department of Lifelong Education, Administration, and Policy

Judith Preissle, Program Head
Qualitative Research Program
Department of Lifelong Education, Administration, and Policy
ATTACHMENT

Current ERSH Courses Proposed for QUAL(ERSH) Prefix

Note: these are qualitative research courses that will be crosslisted for the immediate future with the ERSH prefix to prevent confusion and provide continuity for students and ERSH(EDMS/EDEC) 8010. Teacher Action Research faculty members; they will be listed as QUAL(ERSH) because they will be administered from the qualitative research program.

ERSH 8400. Qualitative Research Traditions
ERSH 8410. Designing Qualitative Research
ERSH 8420. Analyzing Qualitative Data
ERSH 8510. Theories in Qualitative Design
ERSH 8520. Interviewing Research
ERSH 8530. Case Study Research
ERSH 8540. Participant Observation
(ERSH)ELAN 8550. Writing Up Qualitative Research
ERSH 8560. Ethnomethodological and Conversation Analytic Studies
ERSH 9400. Advanced Seminar in Qualitative Research

Current ERSH Courses Proposed for ERSH(QUAL) Prefix

Note: these are courses that the qualitative and quantitative components of REMS have shared. We propose continuing to share them and to designate them as ERSH(QUAL).

ERSH 7800. Topics in Educational Research
ERSH 8700. Practicum in Educational Research
ERSH 9700. Internship in Educational Research
ERSH 9800. Issues in Qualitative and Quantitative Research