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<http://www.ecu.edu/fsonline/contents.htm>

Memorandum:

To: Dr. Linner Griffin, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Programs

From: Program in Special Education Graduate Task Force

Date: January 4, 2011

Re: Renaming the SPED-MAEd-Mental Retardation program

The Program in Special Education (SPED) proposes changing the title of the SPED MAEd program in *Mental Retardation* to *Intellectual Disabilities*. This change in terminology is the result of ongoing efforts in the field of special education for dignity, inclusion, and respect of people with intellectual disabilities. A significant response to this effort is recent passage of Bill 2781 *Rosa's Law* mandating that the terms mental retardation and mentally retarded be replaced with the terms intellectual disabilities and intellectually disabled in all federal health, education, and labor policy. The term intellectual disability is now used by NCDPI and is the terminology for the teaching license. The program content will not change as a result of the change in terminology. Thank you for consideration of this request. If there are any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Alana M. Zambone, SPED Area Coordinator at 252-328-5746 or zambonea@ecu.edu.