March 24, 2006

Dear FASPA colleague,

As long time FASPA members and conference participants, we are well aware of your efforts to bring fully certified teachers to the classrooms in your school districts. We also know how difficult it has been to find enough teachers and to get them fully certified to meet the demands of No Child Left Behind and other initiatives. One key to solving this dilemma is to provide a high option course environment for current as well as prospective teachers, and for you who are assisting them.

The University of South Florida, College of Education, has packaged courses for you in brochure format that should be of interest to all teachers – those who have not yet met all of their certification requirements and those who wish to fine-tune their skills. Courses include curriculum, methods, measurement, classroom management, and others. We invite you to share this information electronically with contacts in your school districts. We are hopeful that they, and you, will find this information of assistance, and a supplement to what is provided by your district. Many of these graduate courses may also be used to fulfill graduate degree requirements. (Please check with the faculty contact in the program’s specialization area if interested in this latter option.)

We have included the following to assist you:

- A brochure listing courses in the College of Education (COE) at the University of South Florida that meet several certification requirements.
- On-line course offerings that meet several certification requirements.
- Step by step registration procedures for students who do not wish to pursue a graduate degree (non-degree seeking students).
- Deadlines associated with non-degree registration.
- Webpage links at the University that might be of assistance.
- A contact sheet showing the names, phone numbers and e-mail addresses of faculty in degree programs offered in the College.

We again ask that you disseminate this information widely within your school district, and let us know whether or not you find this approach helpful to you.

There are many challenges facing all of us as we try to meet the overwhelming demand for teachers in our State. We are optimistic that this information will be of benefit to you as we partner with you to meet these challenges.

Sincerely,

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