**Memorandum of Understanding**

For USF St. Petersburg (USFSP) to Host the USF College of Education Doctorate of Education Cohort

Spring 2016

USF serves one of the largest metropolitan areas in the US, including two school districts that are among the top 20 in student enrollment and professional employee headcount. Pinellas County, the proposed site of the first cohort, is the most densely populated county in FL and the 6th

largest school district in the state. It is also the largest metropolitan area in the state without a “native” doctoral program in education. The proposed program changes will enable USF to offer cohort EdD programs away from the Tampa campus, including Pinellas County, and, ultimately, in other locations as well.

The Doctor of Education (EdD) in Educational Program Developmentwith a concentration in Educational Innovation is designed for practicing educators who work in a wide range of settings and who want to transform and improve their practice to create better learning opportunities for students engaged in a variety of learning environments.

The degree will be granted by USF College of Education (COEDU) in Tampa and will have a program focus on research in action. Although the Program contains some required courses, it is an outcome-driven curriculum rather than a strictly course-driven program. Thus, program units, students and their mentor faculty have sufficient flexibility to tailor the program to professional goals and needs. The aim of the Program is to foster the development of effective and judicious innovators with the capacity to plan, develop, evaluate, and revise educational improvement efforts in their institutional settings.

Proposed Plan

The initial cohort-based program is proposed to begin in the summer and proceeds to a combined professional and research core that deepen students’ ability to think reflectively and critically about problems in our nation’s schools and other educational organizations/settings.

Specifically COEDU in Tampa will:

* Conduct all recruitment, admissions, and student advising.
* Determine the faculty appropriate for teaching and serving on dissertation committees.
* Follow the USF Tampa graduate studies regulations regarding:
	+ The credentialing of USFSP faculty to teach and serve on dissertation committees o The process regarding the transfer of credit for courses taken from USFSP faculty o The residency requirements are met by having COEDU faculty teaching the

majority of the courses.

* Designate a program coordinator for the Ed.D. cohort.
* Communicate course offerings for the term and faculty assignment to the designated USFSP College of Education contact by the campus deadline for courses.

The parties propose that, with respect to funding for the program, the following principles apply:

* The home campus of Faculty member receive the SCH for the course taught
	+ If adjunct faculty is used, which ever campus is paying for the instructor gets the SCH
* USFSP courses will be included in the offerings for the Ed.D. cohort.
* There will be no cost for use of classroom space.
* USF – Tampa student code of conduct and academic regulations will apply to the students in the cohort.
* COEDU will determine the minimum number of students to begin the cohort (20 students is the target number).

The parties are hopeful that this agreement can be approved for a Fall 2016 cohort to begin.

The parties to this Agreement acknowledge that each is governed by and acts through the University of South Florida Board of Trustees. As such, neither party shall be liable to the other for any damages whatsoever. The parties agree that any disputes shall be cooperatively resolved, or if necessary, resolved through appropriate administrative processes and procedures within the University. If a dispute cannot be resolved the parties agree to take the dispute to an impartial administrator mutually agreed upon or to an appropriate USF System office head for final decision and resolution. The parties agree to be bound by any such decision.

The following parties agree to this Memorandum of Understanding:

Dr. Ralph C. Wilcox, Provost and Executive Vice President Date

University of South Florida System

Dr. V. Mark Durand, Interim Regional Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Date

University of South Florida St. Petersburg

Dr. Vasti Torres, Dean and Professor – College of Education Date

University of South Florida

Dr. Harold “Bill” Heller, Dean and Professor – College of Education Date

University of South Florida St. Petersburg