# Quincy University School of Education MSE Program Assessment 2014 Administration and Leadership

# **Quincy University Mission Statement**

Quincy University stands as a Catholic, independent, liberal arts institution of higher learning in the Franciscan tradition. Inspired by the spirit of Francis and Clare of Assisi, we respect each person as a sister or brother with dignity, value, and worth. We work for justice, peace and the integrity of creation. We prepare men and women for leadership and for the transformation of the world by educating them to seek knowledge that leads to wisdom. We welcome and invite all to share our spirit and our life.

# **School of Education Mission Statement**

Embracing the Franciscan values of respect for the individual and service toward others, the Quincy University School of Education will personalize the development of servant-leaders. These inspiring and collaborative professionals will be reflective decision makers who are committed to the academic and personal success of all students, particularly the marginalized, in responsive teaching and learning communities.

# School Administration/Leadership Mission Statement

The school administration/leadership program strives to prepare servant leaders who serve as models of ethical and reflective decision-making to both their school and the larger educational community. These professionals must work collaboratively with others to ensure success for all students, particularly those whose learning is most at-risk.

# I. Description of the methods of program assessment

The following chart indicates key assessments in the school administration program. Each summative assessment is linked to one or more Illinois Professional School Leader Standards. A variety of assessment formats are included including case study analysis, reflection statements, research papers, writing prompts, and oral presentations.

	Name of Assessment	<b>Type or Form of Assessment</b> (ex.: essay, case study, project, portfolio, state test, etc.)	When the Assessment is Administered (point in the program when assessment is administered)
1	IL Content-Area Test	State Test	During final semester of enrollment or before
2	Content Assessment: School Leadership Project	Project	Final class period of MSE 600 Research Methodology course
3	Assessment of Candidates' Ability to Plan an Appropriate Environment:	Case Study/Project	Final class period of Human Resource Management course

	Teacher Evaluation Conference		
4	Clinical Practice Assessment	Written evaluation from site	Conclusion of Administrative
		supervisor and reflection statements	Internship experiences
		from administrative candidate	
5	Candidate's Impact on	School Improvement Plan Project	Final class period of
	Providing a Supportive		Principalship course
	Environment for Students'		(for those seeking
	Learning		certification only)
6	Writing Assessment	Essay	Prior to enrollment in
			Administrative Internship or
			Practicum
7	Leadership Platform and	Essay on Final Exam	Final class period of
	Growth Plan		Leadership and Planned
			Educational Change Course
8	Thesis	Research project	Culmination of program

In addition to these assessments, the program surveys recent graduates and their employers to gain information about the effectiveness of the program.

### Assessment #1 – State Content Area Test

The administrative content test is a comprehensive evaluation of a candidate's mastery of coursework leading to administrative certification. It is a multiple-choice, normed test administered in selected sites at specific times throughout the year. Results from the test are used to evaluate course offerings leading to the Master of Science in School Administration degree. The standards addressed are determined by the test and cover the range of requirements for administrative certification.

### Assessment #2 – Leadership Analysis Project

The leadership analysis project is the culminating project in the MSE 600 Research Methodology course, which is required of all candidates. Students select a leadership problem to study. The final project consists of a small research paper written in APA style.

The standards which are addressed by this assessment include theories of leadership (1C, 5A), oral communication (1E), written communication (1E), collaboration (1F, 4R), use of technology (2J, 2T), the change process (2I), ethics (5B, 5D, 5G), data analysis (1D, 3P), and reflection.

### Assessment #3 – Teacher Evaluation Conference and Write-up

The teacher evaluation conference and written write-up is the culminating assignment in Human Resource Management (MSE 529), a course requirement for all candidates. Students select a teacher who agrees let the candidate conduct a full evaluation cycle, including pre-observation conference, observation, written evaluation, and post evaluation conference. Students complete all of the steps, including video-taping their

conference with the teacher. During the final class meeting, students discuss their experience and show the class the video tape of their conference. All other class members critique the conference using a rubric.

The standards addressed by this assessment include data collection and analysis (1D, 2AA), effective communication (1E), evaluation strategies (2F, 2DD), diversity (2G, 2Q, 5M), adult learning and professional development (2H), technology (2J, 2T), treating individuals with respect (2L, 5K, 5L), valuing staff (2N), recognizing responsibilities and contributions of individuals (2O, 2U, 5N), identifying barriers to learning (2P), life-long learning (2R), high expectations for staff (2S), multiple learning opportunities (2V), school culture and climate (2Z), human resource management (3D), knowledge of teaching used to make decisions (3I), problems confronted and resolved (3T), ethics (5G, 5P), role model (5H), impact of role (5I, 5J), fulfills legal responsibilities (5R, 6C), equity (5T).

### Assessment #4 – Clinical Practice Assessment

The clinical practice assessment consists of two parts. The site supervisor for the administrative internship completes an evaluation of the candidate's performance throughout the internship. In addition, the administrative candidate maintains a log of his/her activities and writes a reflection statement on each standard which relates to the experiences during the internship. Two clinical practice experiences are required: MSE 589 and MSE 599. The first is an internship of 150 hours encompassing all aspects of the school setting. Administrative candidates work closely with the site supervisor to structure experiences which will provide them with the analytical, interpersonal, and logistical skills necessary to function effectively as a school leader. In addition, candidates complete one major project during this internship as jointly determined by the site supervisor and candidate. The second experience is an internship of 60 hours in a more diverse, urban area than is available locally. In addition to the experiences recorded during the internship, candidates must also read two texts and respond to a series of questions regarding diversity and its significance in education. The second internship has been required for many years, but the reading and writing component was new in Spring 2008.

These assessments reflect work in all six standard areas, with the particular strands dependent upon the experiences of the candidate. Especially important are the strands requiring written and oral communication skills and the role of diversity in education.

#### Assessment #5 – School Improvement Plan (for certification candidates only)

The school improvement plan assessment is the summative assessment in MSE 588 (Principalship) and consists of several parts. Administrative candidates are given information about a school and are required to find demographic information, collect and analyze data about student performance, propose in-service activities based upon student

performance, complete the entire school improvement plan template, and present the information to an audience using some form of technology.

The standards addressed by this assessment include data collection and analysis (1D, 2AA), effective communication (1E), involving the school community in school improvement efforts (1L, 1M, 1N, 1O, 1P, 1Q, 1R, 1S), evaluation strategies (2F, 2DD), diversity (2G, 2Q, 5M), adult learning and professional development (2H), technology (2J, 2T), recognizing responsibilities and contributions of individuals (2O, 2U, 5N), identifying barriers to learning (2P), high expectations for staff (2S), multiple learning opportunities (2V), school culture and climate (2Z), human resource management (3D), knowledge of teaching used to make decisions (3I), problems confronted and resolved (3T).

### Assessment #6 – Writing Assessment

The writing assessment was changed last year to reflect professional writing with the opportunity for revision. In place of an in-class prompt, the new writing assessment is a student's score on the literature review in the Research Methods course, MSE 600. This course is required of all MSE candidates in administration and leadership.

The state standard most directly addressed by this assessment is that of effective written communication (1E). Depending upon the research question, other standards might be addressed as well, such as identifying barriers to learning (2P) or confronting and resolving problems (3T).

### Assessment #7 – Leadership Platform and Growth Plan

This assessment is an ongoing revision of an assignment in MSE 524 – Leadership and Planned Educational Change. Students are asked to write their beliefs about leadership as their first assignment in the class, to revise this platform midway through the course, and to finalize their thinking at the end of the semester. Based upon their stated beliefs, they then devise a specific growth plan, targeting areas which they determine need to be strengthened.

Many state standards are addressed by this assessment, and some may vary depending upon the beliefs of the individual candidate. Common ones which are addressed include treating individuals with respect (2L, 5K, 5L), valuing staff (2N), recognizing responsibilities and contributions of individuals (2O, 2U, 5N), identifying barriers to learning (2P), life-long learning (2R), high expectations for staff (2S), multiple learning opportunities (2V), school culture and climate (2Z), human resource management (3D), knowledge of teaching used to make decisions (3I), problems confronted and resolved (3T), ethics (5G, 5P), role model (5H), impact of role (5I, 5J), fulfills legal responsibilities (5R, 6C), equity (5T).

### Assessment #8 – Thesis

The thesis is the culminating project for some MSE students in administration and leadership. Students identify a topic, conduct a review of current literature, develop a research question, and work with their thesis chair to write and defend their thesis. A three-person committee works with the candidate through the proposal and defense stages. IRB approval is required for all research involving human subjects. An overview of the IRB process, sample letters of informed consent, and forms for submitting a project for approval are available on the Quincy University faculty resources website.

The standards most directly addressed by this assessment include: (1D) information sources, data collection, and data analysis strategies, (1E) effective communication, (2F) measurement, evaluation, and assessment strategies, (2R) life-long learning is encouraged and modeled, (2Y) decisions about curriculum are based on research, standards developed by learned societies, and the needs of the community, (2AA) multiple sources of information are used to make decisions, (4A) emerging issues and trends that potentially affect the school community.

Instead of writing a thesis, many students choose to take MSE 503 Educational Measurement and Assessment.

### **II. Results of Assessment**

Year	Number taking test	Number passing test	Percentage Passing
2004-2005	2	2	100%
2005-2006	4	4	100%
2006-2007	10	10	100%
2007-2008	6	6	100%
2008-2009	1	1	100%
2009-2010	3	3	100%
2010-2011	5 *	4	80%
2011-2012	1	1	100%
2012-2013	9	9	100%
2013-2014	1	1	100%

Assessment #1 State Content Test (Leadership & Admin Program, Principal Test)

\*One person whose scores were submitted to Quincy University on the State Content Test was not a student at QU.

	Paper	PowerPoint	Executive	Self-reflection
	(100 pts.)	(30 pts.)	Summary	( <b>10</b> pts.)
			( <b>10 pts.</b> )	
2006-2007	95.3	28	10	9.75
2007-2008	94.1	28.5	10	9.11
2008-2009	91.6	28.5	9.25	9.5
2009-2010	91.3	28.9	9.4	9.1
2010-2011	91.3%	N/A	N/A	N/A
2011-2012	86.6%	N/A	N/A	N/A
2012-2013	89.7%	27.7	9.2	9.89
2013-2014	100%	100%	100%	98%

Assessment # 2 Leadership/Administration Program Final Research Project Average Scores

Assessment #3 – Teacher Evaluation Conference and Write-up Average Scores Principalship Certification – (Human Resource Management Course)

	Written	Video Tape of	Critique forms for	<b>Reflection Paper</b>
	Evaluation	Conference	other conferences	(50 points)
	(50 points)	(100 points)	(30 points)	
2006-2007	49	92	30	48
2007-2008	46	89	28	47
2008-2009	47	94	30	45
2009-2010	48	91	29	46
20102011	47	93	28	46
2011-2012	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2012-2013	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2013-2014	46	93	30	47

Assessment #4 – Clinical Practice Assessment (Leadership/Administration)

**MSE 589** 

Year	Number of	Number of	Percentage	Average
	Candidates	Completers	of	Supervisor's
	Enrolled		Completers	Evaluation
				Score
2004-2005	9	8	89%	Graded P/F
2005-2006	16	11	69%	Graded P/F
2006-2007	2	0	0%	Graded P/F
2007-2008	5	4	80%	Graded P/F
2008-2009	6	2	33%	Graded P/F
2009-2010	4	2	50%	Graded P/F

20102011	3	2	66%	Graded P/F
2011-2012	4	3	75%	Graded P/F
2012-2013	24	17	70.8%	Graded P/F
2013-2014	6	5	83%	Graded P/F

**MSE 599** 

Year	Number of	Number of	Percentage	Average
	Candidates	Completers	of	Supervisor's
	Enrolled		Completers	Evaluation
2004-2005	7	6	86%	Graded P/F
2005-2006	5	5	100%	Graded P/F
2006-2007	10	9	90%	Graded P/F
2007-2008	7	6	86%	Graded P/F
2008-2009	2	1	50%	Graded P/F
2009-2010	8	7	88%	Graded P/F
20102011	4	3	75%	Graded P/F
2011-2012	3	3	100%	Graded P/F
2012-2013	4	2	50%	Graded P/F
2013-2014	5	5	100%	Graded P/F

(Leadership/Administration) Evaluation of Skills in Internship/Practicum by Supervisor Skills in Internship (Scale 1 to 5) 1= Unacceptable; 2 = Needs Improvement 3 = Acceptable 4 = Good 5 = Outstanding

Characteristic (2013-2014)	Average
	Score
Cooperation	4
Dependability	4
Enthusiasm	4
Initiative	4
Voice Quality	3
Poise	3
Appearance	3
Organized	3
Routines	3
Management	4
Knowledge	3
Variety of Techniques	4
Creative	3
Communication	3
Transitions	3
Individual Differences	3
Praise	4
Punctual	4
Attendance	4

Rapport – student	4
Rapport – peers	4
Self-evaluation	3
Commitment	3

# **Evaluation of Internship Dispositions**

(0 Low to 2 High)

Disposition or Quality	Average
Comont Log doughin	Score
Servant Leadership Reflective Decision-Making	
Success for All	
Ethical	3
Professional	2
Content knowledge	2

# Assessment #5 – School Improvement Plan School Improvement Project Average Scores

Each element is worth up to 10 points.

PowerPoint	Average
Vision	8.2
Goal-setting	9.5
Data Presentation	9.0
Clarity of Message	8.8
Use of Technology	9.5
SIP Written Plan	
Use of multiple data sources	8.0
Data analysis	9.2
Identification of key factors	9.5
Professional development tied to improved	9.0
instruction	
Completion of form	8.8

### Assessment #6 – Writing Assessment (MSE 600 Literature Review – for Administration/Leadership Students)

Year	Number Taking	Average	Number Passing	Percentage of
	Assessment	Score	Assessment	<b>Passing Scores</b>
Spring 2008	5	8.3/10	5	100%
Spring 2009	9	7.2/10	6	66%
Spring 2010	9	8.1/10	7	78%
2010-2011	3	78.3%	3	100%
2011-2012	2	63%	1	50%
2012-2013	5	85.2%	3	60%
2013-2014	8	90.1%	8	100%

NOTE: Students must score at least 74% to pass the assessment.

Assessment #7 – Leadership Platform and Growth Plan

Year	Number Taking	Number Passing	Percentage of	Average
	Assessment	Assessment	Passing Scores	Score
Fall 2006	9	9	100%	N/A
Fall 2007	17	15	88%	N/A
Fall 2008	8	8	100%	N/A
Fall 2009	8	7	88%	N/A
Fall 2010	14	12	86%	N/A
Fall 2011	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Fall 2012	7	7	100%	20/25
Fall 2013	18	18	100%	14.5/15

Assessment #8 – Thesis

Successful Thesis Defenses	2006 -	2007-	2008-	2009-	2010-	2011-	2012-	2013-
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Administration	1	6	3	4	1	1	0	0
Leadership	2	0	1	1	2	0	0	0
Curriculum and	0	5	1	0	1	0	0	1
Instruction								
<b>Teacher Certification</b>	-	-	-	15	5	0	0	0
Total	3	11	5	20	9	0	0	1

# **Additional Data to Inform Decisions**

Year	Average Over-all
	Rating
	(1 low to 5 high)
2003	4.22
2004	4.17
2007	4.14
2008	4.18
2009	NA
2010	NA
2011	4.14
2012	4.23
2013	4.00
2014	3.88

Survey of Graduates' Overall Satisfaction

# School of Education Survey of Graduates – Faculty (1 low to 5 high)

Question – How well do faculty members:	Average Score
Hold high expectations for learning	3.62
Give timely and appropriate feedback	3.75
Address diverse needs of the students	3.5
Establish an environment that promotes learning	3.5
Use multiple forms of assessment	3.375
Grade based on assessment	3.75
Model appropriate appearance/behavior	3.75
Demonstrate servant-leadership	3.25

School of Education Survey of Graduates – All Courses in School of Ed (1 low to 5 high)

Question- Rate your overall experience	Average
in SOE in the following areas:	Score
Access to instructors	4.0
Access to advisors	3.71
Internship	4.0
Use of technology	3.428
Quality of instruction	3.857
Communication between faculty and student	3.71

Openness of faculty to suggestions	4.14
Approachability of faculty	4.285
Preparation for work world	3.57
Academic rigor	3.857
Treatment of students by faculty	4.285

School of Education Survey of Graduates – School Administration Courses

Question: How satisfied are you with how	Average
the QU SOE prepared you to:	Score
Establish and maintain a vision for the	3.5
school	
Maintain a school culture which promotes	4.5
learning	
Manage the operation and resources of the	3.5
school	
Collaborate with stakeholders, including	3.5
parents	
Act with integrity and fairness	4.5
Interact with and influence the wider school	3.5
community	
Use multiple sources of data for decision-	4.5
making	
Establish and monitor progress towards SIP	3.5
goals	
Evaluate instruction	3.0
Value the diversity of students and staff	3.5

# **Total Number of Students Completing the MSE in 2013-2014**

MSE Concentration Area	Number of Graduates	Number of Graduates (2011-	Number of Graduates	Number of Graduates
	(2010-2011)	2012)	(2012-2013)	(2013-2014)
Elementary	98	81	13	18
Education				
Curriculum &	4	0	1	2
Instruction				
Leadership	2	8	4	8
<b>Reading Education</b>	2	1	1	2
School	2	4	1**	1
Administration				
Teacher Leader	0	0	0**	0

<b>Special Education</b>	15	4	42	26
<b>Educational Studies</b>		5	3	7
<b>BIL/ESL Education</b>		1	5	9
<b>Biology Education</b>	-	-	1	1
Math Education	-	-	2	1
<b>History Education</b>			0	1
<b>Physical Education</b>	-	-	1	2
<b>English Education</b>	-	-	1	-
<b>Secondary Education</b>	-	-	2	2
Total	123	104	76	80

\*\* Program discontinued per new state law.

The highlighted columns were previously all grouped under a category called Teacher Certification in previous years. We now will report the elementary candidates separately from the other certification areas to be more precise in our analysis of trends.

### III. Analysis of Assessment Results and IV. Planned Changes based upon Analysis

### **State Content Test**

NOTE: The current school administration program will cease to exist on August 1, 2014.

### Leadership Analysis Project

100% of the students passed this assessment over a six year period. Scores remain strong, although fluctuating slightly from year to year. An increased emphasis on the analysis part of the project has resulted in scores which declined over the last two years but began to rebound this year. Case studies are used in every class period to model the analysis process; this thinking appears to be more difficult for some students than others. No significant changes are planned.

### **Teacher Evaluation Project**

This culminating assessment requires students to replicate all aspects of an evaluation cycle (for teachers or other professionals in their work environment). Anecdotal comments reveal that students fear this assessment; they are unsure of their own judgment regarding others' performance. Careful examination of the evaluation instrument and modeling the entire process has helped to alleviate some of the concern. Scores indicate strong performance over time on this assessment. Students must not only conduct an observation, write an evaluation, and conference with the employee, but they must also reflect upon their own performance and make suggestions to their peers based upon a video-tape of the conferences. These multiple opportunities to both observe the process and participate in it result in a greater confidence level for students at the conclusion of the assessment. A change in the form used to evaluate others' conferences two years ago resulted in more focused comments and less feedback designed simply to make the other students feel good. No significant changes are planned, although the new form will be monitored again in the coming year. **This assessment was not given in the 2012-2013 academic year**.

### **Clinical Practice Assessment (Internships)**

NOTE: The current school administration program will cease to exist on August 1, 2014.

### School Improvement Plan (for those seeking certification as administrators)

NOTE: The current school administration program will cease to exist on August 1, 2014.

### Writing Assessment

For the first year since 2008, 100% of students passed the writing assessment during the 2013-2014 academic year, reflecting a 40% increase student passing scores within the past year. Within the School of Education, students are required to write in APA style on all significant writing projects. Instructors are now required to make professional writing style an important component of the grade for each assignment within the course and to offer feedback on commonly encountered errors. We will continue to emphasize professional writing throughout all coursework.

### Leadership Platform and Growth Plan

This assessment requires students to articulate their personal beliefs about leadership and outline the steps they plan to take in moving towards their goal. While the scores on this assessment are somewhat subjective, students must address the ideas of vision, interpersonal relationships, teamwork, and their own beliefs about what constitute an effective leader, in addition to meeting the guidelines of the writing rubric. Student performance is strong over time on this assessment. No significant changes are planned.

### Thesis

The thesis is the capstone project for candidates in leadership and administration and proves challenging for some students. During the past school year the format of the research methodology course was revised to help students focus on the literature search and refining their research question. Informal feedback from students suggests this may not have been helpful because they lack the big picture of how to approach the entire process. A variety of documents have been developed to address this problem, such as a mock thesis, a chronology of events when writing a thesis, a committee approval form, a short guideline to writing the thesis, and the documents posted on the Quincy University website about the IRB process. An ongoing problem is the availability of full-time faculty to serve as thesis chairs.

Students now have an option regarding the thesis. They are still required to take MSE 600 Research Methodology but may substitute a new course, MSE 503 Educational Measurement and Assessment for the actual thesis project. In the new course, students write, field test, and analyze test results for an assessment. One hundred percent of the students in this program choose this option this year.

### **Other Assessment Tools – Analysis and Planned Changes**

### **Survey of Graduates**

Satisfaction with the overall School of Education and its programs remains strong over time. The lowest responses during the 2013-2014 academic year dealt with student perceptions of faculty demonstrations of servant-leadership. Students also marked their experience with the use of technology in the School of Education lower than other areas. However, due to the small sample size of (n=4) student graduate survey responses, this data is not deemed representative of our (n=80) MSE graduates from QU's School of Education during the 2013-2014 academic year. Normally a minimum sample size of 10-20% of an overall population is deemed necessary for representative survey results.

### Program goals for 2014-2015

NOTE: The current school administration program will cease to exist on August 1, 2014. New candidates could not be accepted after September 1, 2012. The state of Illinois required that all principal preparation programs were redesigned and re-approved by the certification board by August 1, 2013. Quincy University will not be able to offer this program because of the staffing levels required for state approval.

1. Emphasize professional writing throughout all coursework to increase the writing score on the rubric.

2. Continue to emphasize professional writing throughout all coursework to increase the writing score on the rubric. The rubric will be used throughout the coursework to help students understand the expectations.

3. Ensure that all administrative candidates have met the certification requirements by the state-imposed deadline.