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Fostering a *Responsive* Curriculum: An Analysis of the Field and Course Performance of  
Alternatively Certified Master of Education Candidates

Alternative certification is a hotly debated issue that has existed now for a number of years. Studies show that more and more individuals are choosing the alternative path to teacher certification. With the overwhelming majority of U.S. states having some form of alternative certification or another, it seems that the design, procedures, and guidelines used to implement these state frameworks are increasingly regulated by individuals and groups who are external to the teaching profession. For this reason, it is imperative that teacher preparation programs take a proactive stance in the alternative certification phenomenon. By making a deliberate effort to review program data and identify potential weaknesses in the performance of alternatively certified candidates and in turn use that data to foster a curriculum that is responsive to those deficiencies, teacher preparation programs can move toward becoming part of the solution. This session will outline the presenter's ongoing research project which is doing just this.

The speaker will present an overview of a literature review conducted on studies investigating differences in the performance of alternatively certified teachers and their alternatively certified counterparts. This session will also provide an outline of the work-in-progress study being conducted by the presenter. Having heightened awareness of the role that teacher preparation programs can play in addressing perceived flaws in state alternative certification frameworks, this session will relate not only to those who are in higher education but a variety of other groups as well.

## **REQUIRED INFORMATION FROM ALL SUBMITTERS**

1) If accepted, will your presentation include handouts for each attendee? **YES**

If yes, you must submit an electronic copy of the handout via email to [paperreviewcommittee@elementalethics.com](mailto:paperreviewcommittee@elementalethics.com) no later than October 30, 2008 if it is to be included on the CD-Rom provided to each attendee at the conference.

2) Would you be willing to play an additional role at the conference in addition to that of presenter? **YES**

If yes, please specify the additional role or roles below that in which are interested and for which you will be recognized:

Workshop Leader **NO**

Brainstorming Session Facilitator **NO**

Panel Leader **NO**

Host (one who briefly introduces a colleague prior to his/her presentation) **YES**

3) Would you be willing to join the Paper Review Committee and assist in peer review of submitted abstracts? **YES**

### **Equipment Needs and Room Setups**

The following equipment will be provided at no charge to presenters as long as supplies last.

Flip Chart

Markers

Easel

### **Reserving AV Equipment**

Other equipment required for your presentation (for example, LCD Projector, Overhead Projector, Screen) can be rented for a nominal fee through a special group arrangement. Presenters may reserve such audio video equipment during online registration.