




Office of the Provost and  
Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

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**TO:** Richard Koubek, President

**FROM:** Andrew Storer, Provost & Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs 

**DATE:** April 1, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Senate Proposal 15-24

Attached is Senate proposal 15-24, "Proposal to Shelve Graduate Certificate in Post-Secondary STEM Education," and a memo stating the Senate passed this proposal at their March 6, 2024 meeting. I have reviewed this memo and recommend approving the proposal. If you concur with my recommendation, the provost's office will notify the appropriate offices.

I concur   X   do not concur            with the provost's recommendation as stated in this memo.

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Richard Koubek, President

4/3/2024  
Date



**Michigan Tech**

*University Senate*

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**DATE:** March 7, 2024  
**TO:** Richard Koubek, President  
**FROM:** Robert Hutchinson  
University Senate President  
**SUBJECT:** Proposal 15-24  
**COPIES:** Andrew Storer, Provost & Senior VP for Academic Affairs

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At its meeting on March 6, 2024, the University Senate approved Proposal 15-24, "Proposal to Shelve Graduate Certificate in Post-Secondary STEM Education." Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

## **Proposal to Shelve Graduate Certificate in Post-Secondary STEM Education Proposal 15-24**

- 1. Name of program to be shelved:** Graduate Certificate in Post-Secondary STEM Education
- 2. Final term program will be open for new admits:** There are currently 2 students enrolled in the degree program, and we do not plan to enroll additional students.
- 3. Plan to complete all enrolled students and any returning students:** We will provide the necessary coursework for currently enrolled students to complete the program.
- 4. Reason for shelving:** There are several factors that have led to our decision to shelve the program at this time.
  - Since the program was approved in 2015, only 10 certificates have been awarded. The program only serves current Michigan Tech graduate students and does not attract external applicants.
  - Efforts to increase enrollment of current graduate students have not been successful. Graduate students are often discouraged from taking additional coursework beyond their primary degree program's requirements. Most of the students that complete the certificate are graduate students in our department who take a majority of the classes as part of their MS or PhD in Applied Cognitive Science and Human Factors.
  - It is not sustainable to continue to offer small sections of ED 5460 (Psychology of Learning) or ED5470 (Issues in STEM Education), two required courses that primarily serve the certificate.
  - We do not have the capacity to offer this certificate online as a way to attract external applicants.
  - We plan to work with the CTL and Office of the Provost to develop STEM Education professional development opportunities for graduate students and faculty through badging or other micro-credentials.
- 5. Financial impact to the department and university:** There are no anticipated negative financial impact to the department or the university.