Title: **Proposed Changes to Application Requirements – IST EdD program**

GSC presenter: Dr. Tom Brush

This proposal is for a...

    ☒ program change   ☐ new program   ☐ policy change   ☐ new policy

Include responses to each question, as relevant:

1. What are you proposing and why? (If proposing a change, then the description and rationale should be relevant to the change(s) only.)

The IST faculty propose to waive the requirement for the graduate records exam (GRE) for applicants who have obtained a **3.75 GPA or higher for their masters degree coursework from an accredited U.S. institution**. The GPA calculation will include only the graduate coursework for the masters degree that the applicant has identified as the degree they will use to fulfill the EdD admission requirement.

Rationale:

The EdD is a post-masters degree program. Thus, all applicants for the EdD must have successfully completed a masters degree prior to admission to the IST EdD program. The GRE is primarily designed to gauge a prospective student's potential success in graduate coursework. If students can demonstrate that they have been successful in previous graduate coursework, then the GRE is a redundant and overly burdensome application requirement. The IST faculty consider a 3.75 GPA in their masters degree coursework as an acceptable demonstration of a prospective student's potential success in future graduate coursework.

In addition, analysis of IST EdD application data over the past three years indicates that of the 39 applicants who had graduate GPA's over 3.75, only five (13%) were denied admission to the program. Further analysis of these data suggest that these students were denied admission for reasons other than their GRE scores (e.g., already admitted to another graduate program, questionable recommendation letters). Thus, for a vast majority of applicants meeting our proposed GPA threshold, the GRE was not a factor in admission decisions.

2. How will this impact enrollment?

Since numerous potential students request a GRE waiver, this may have a positive impact on enrollments in the program.

3. How will this impact students' time to degree?

No impact.

4. How will this impact specific student populations and/or DEI issues?

Since the GRE can sometimes be a barrier to potential students from underrepresented populations, this may have a positive impact.

5. How will this impact School of Education resources, including faculty loads?

No impact.

6. How will this be effectively sustained over time?

The IST admissions committee in collaboration with the School of Education graduate admissions office will validate that students meet or do not meet the criteria for the GRE waiver.

7. What was the departmental vote tally for this proposal? (e.g., "12 in favor, 2 opposed, 3 abstained")

9 in favor, 0 opposed