IUPUI GAC Reviewer Form

Documents Reviewed: Graduate Certificate in K-12 Online Teaching

Summary of Proposal:

1. Are the goals clear and achievable?
   The goals seem clear and achievable regarding developing a certificate so K-12 teachers can develop online courses.

2. Is the program academically sound?
   Honestly, I’m not sure. My initial reaction was to believe that there’s no need to develop online courses for K-12, certainly K-8, and nothing in this proposal helps dispel that initial reaction. I would have liked to read about what other states are doing; why this online program would not detract from other goals of grade and high school experiences (e.g., socialization needs); and if there are any particular needs that will be met this way that cannot be met through traditional classroom learning.

3. Are faculty resources available to offer this certificate without undercutting other key missions of the unit?
   I don’t think so, if the IU Northwest Online Learning Initiative will be funding not only the initial start-up costs but also those ongoing costs necessary for revisions. I wasn’t sure if both costs would be covered by the Initiative.

4. Is there overlap, either real or potential, with any other unit that could harm the program or be exploited to help the program?
   None that I detect based on this proposal.

5. My recommendation, comments/concerns regarding this proposal…
   I would recommend receiving more detailed information regarding the pedagogical reasons for developing online courses at this age level with some data from other states where such programs have been in place for awhile.