

DOCTORAL QUALIFYING EXAM
Program in Higher Education
Fall 2007
Part One
[Three hours]

CORE	
General Administration	Research on Students
Research on Higher Education	History of Higher Education
Teaching and Learning	Role of Higher Education in a Democracy

Directions: Answer four of the following questions. Support your response by citing, as appropriate, facts or evidence from the research and literature on higher education. Your answers will be evaluated on your ability to apply critical thinking (analysis and synthesis) of the issues posed and to cite literature and theories to support your answers.

1. Given that the United States is a relatively young country, what do you perceive to be the major changes in American Higher Education since the founding of Harvard in 1636? Name five of the people most instrumental in affecting those changes and discuss what influence they had in the development of the American post-secondary system.
2. There have been many articles in higher education newspapers and journals on the move toward the corporate model in higher education. What would such a change mean for higher education in terms of governance, funding and personnel?
3. Identify a list of major contributors to research, scholarship, and/or practice in the field of higher education, note contributions of each, why each is significant to the field and the implications for the field of the work of each. Include the ten that you conclude are the most significant in the field.
4. Qualitative and quantitative research are both represented in scholarly publications of the social sciences. Is one more appropriate for research in higher education? Give examples of appropriate research to support your position.
5. Choose two important theories of learning. With support from your readings, discuss the significance of those theories and their influences on teaching theory and practice in higher education.
6. Given your reading, study and professional experience, what three factors developing now in the field or in the broader society will result in significant influence on the field in the next five years? Identify each, discuss the potential implications of each, and discuss how you perceive higher education will or must respond to each.

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Part Two
[Two hours]

BASE CORE	
Academic Administration Policy Professoriate Educational Resource Development	Finance Student Services, Organization/Administration Planning & Analytical Systems Legal Aspects

Directions: Answer any two of the following questions. Support your responses by citing, as appropriate, facts or evidence from the research and literature on higher education.

Answer any two questions.

1. Identify five current organizational and administrative issues affecting student affairs professionals in colleges and universities. What are the major challenges brought about by these issues? Discuss the implications of these challenges for the future of student affairs.
2. From the three tenets of the Professoriate, teaching, research and service, one might infer a balance in importance. Does this hold true in practice? How do tenure, academic freedom and publishing interface with the American Association of University Professors' supported three tenets?
3. Describe the distinctions between a law and policy. In areas of dispute, which takes precedence and why? Would there ever be an occasion when a state statute would take precedence over a federal law? Give examples.
4. From your readings and study, identify two financial issues facing higher education. Explore the implications for higher education and possible strategies for avoiding negative effects.
5. If you were asked to explain why someone should seek a doctoral degree in higher education, what logic or evidence would you provide to support the need for and the value of a doctoral degree in higher education?

6. You have just been hired as the first advancement officer for a small private liberal arts college. Historically, donations have been made to the college sporadically and without solicitation. How would you organize the Office of Advancement and begin to develop a strategic plan for fundraising?
7. The role of an academic administrator can be found at various levels in the organization chart of a college or university: department chair, associate dean, dean of the college or school, vice president or provost. Cite examples of academic decisions appropriate for the university and/or college levels of academic administration and decisions more appropriate department and division level administrators.
8. Strategic plans in colleges or universities often become voluminous documents bound and placed on a shelf. What steps and personnel should be involved in developing a meaningful and useful document?