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School of Education History

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The Department of Education was organized in August 1910. Previous to this time there were many transfers to U.C. and Stanford, and there were few upper division offerings in education at Pacific. President Guth wanted C.O.P.'S offerings in education to be on a level with U.C. and Stanford so that students on transferring would not be required to repeat courses and would get full credit for work done at Pacific. Dr. Harris was brought to C.O.P. by Guth with the purpose of paralleling the work of the other universities on the coast. On the lower division level, courses were started in General Psych, Hist of Ed. and American Ed. On the upper division level, Pacific started offering courses in Child and Adolescent Psych., moral and Religious Ed., Phil. of Ed., Ed. Psych., and School Law.

At this time no credentials were given, but students on transferring to Normal Schools received the General Elementary Credential with no difficulty, and those transferring to the universities needed only to complete a fifth year for the General Secondary Credential.

In 1915, Pacific, under the authority of a new state law, began giving special elementary and high school credentials in Art, Music, and P.E., followed in 1923 by a special credential in expression. With the coming of Pres. Knoles in 1919, the upper division was strengthened and COP gave all the undergraduate work for the several credentials.

Early in the 1920's, Knoles was approached by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction and urged to organize a School of Education with offerings through the fifth year and apply for the right to give Secondary Credentials. In December 1923, the School of Education was organized and on January 10, 1924, it was recognized by the State Board of Education, and COP was placed on the list

of accredited colleges and universities. In June, 1924, the last year at San Jose, the first General Junior High School Credential was given, and also beginning with the organization of the School of Education, Pacific was authorized to give the General High School Credential, a Special Credential in Public Speaking, credentials in Secondary and Elementary Supervision and Administration.

Upon moving to Stockton there was an immediate demand for the General Elementary Credential and practice teaching experience. This was immediately granted. In 1940, COP started giving a Special Credential in Home Making, followed in 1944 by Supervisors Credentials in Art, Music and P.E. In 1945, COP commenced giving the Special Secondary Credential in Speech Arts and Speech Correction, and in 1947 the Attendance Officer Credential was given.

At the time of the organization of the Department of Education, there were 3 full time teachers and several part time teachers plus departmental representatives. Upon moving to Stockton, the department became active in "Teachers-in-service" training and established courses on Saturdays, evenings and late afternoons. This work finally led to the establishment of the first Summer School in 1926. Also for a period of about 3 years in the late 20's, the School of Education carried on extension work in Sacramento, Turlock and Contra Costa County.

In 1926, Pacific's Alumni Secretary, Bernice Fiola, established the appointment service in conjunction with the Alumni Office. Although this service was not restricted to teacher candidates, the great proportion of its work was for this group. Teachers trained at COP have been widely appointed through Central California and have been very successful.

Dr. Harris was succeeded as Dean of the School of Education by Dr. Jantzen in February 1944 after devoting over 30 years to the development of Pacific's Education Department - the last 20 years as Dean of the School.