

COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Friday, March 12, 2010

DECISION ITEM A-7: Academic Degree Programs on Which Staff Propose Expedited Action

Staff Recommendation

That the Commission for Higher Education approve by consent the following degree program(s), in accordance with the background information provided in this agenda item:

- Master of Science in Computer Science to be offered by Purdue University-Calumet at Hammond
- Master of Arts in Communication to be offered by the University of Southern Indiana at Evansville
- Master of Arts in Sports Journalism to be offered by Indiana University at its IUPUI Campus

Background

At its August and September 2004 meetings, the Commission for Higher Education began implementing a new policy on new academic degree programs on which staff proposes expedited action. These programs meet the criteria identified in that policy and are hereby presented for action by consent, in accordance with the aforementioned policy and the information presented in the supporting documents.

Supporting Documents

- (1) *Background Information on Academic Degree Programs on Which Staff Propose Expedited Action*, February 26, 2010
- (2) *Policy for New Academic Degree Programs on Which Staff Propose Expedited Action*, September 2, 2004

Background Information on Academic Degree Programs on Which Staff Propose Expedited Action

February 26, 2010

CHE 09-44 Master of Science in Computer Science to be offered by Purdue University-Calumet at Hammond

Proposal received on October 19, 2009
CIP Code: Federal – 110701; State – 110701
Projected Annual Headcount: 21; FTEs: 14; Degrees: 7
New State Funds Requested, Actual:
Year 1: \$ 0
Year 2: \$ 0
Year 3: \$ 0
Year 4: \$ 0
Year 5: \$ 0

Purdue Calumet offers Bachelor of Science programs in Computer Technology and Computer Engineering. In FY2008, the Computer Technology program enrolled 158 headcount or 100 FTE students and had 29 graduates. The Computer Engineering program, which was approved by the Commission for Higher Education in June 2006, had 36 headcount or 31 FTE students in FY2008; in that same year, it had five graduates. Enrollments and degrees conferred for this program are consistent with those projected at the time the program was approved by the Commission. The offering of this program is consistent with the 2001 *Regional Campus Agreement*.

CHE 09-50 Master of Arts in Communication to be offered by the University of Southern Indiana at Evansville

Proposal received on October 29, 2009
CIP Code: Federal – 090199; State – 090199
Projected Annual Headcount: 72; FTEs: 45; Degrees: 30
New State Funds Requested, Actual:
Year 1: \$ 0
Year 2: \$ 0
Year 3: \$ 0
Year 4: \$ 0
Year 5: \$ 0

USI offers a B.A./B.S. in Communication Studies which, in FY2008, enrolled 88 headcount or 77 FTE students and had 14 graduates. USI offers four baccalaureate degrees related to Communications: B.A./B.S. in Communications Studies; B.A./B.S. in Journalism and Computer Publishing; B.A./B.S. in Radio and Television; B.A./B.S. in Public Relations and Advertising. In FY2008 these four programs enrolled a total of 617 headcount or 549 FTE students and had 101 graduates.

CHE 09-56 Master of Arts in Sports Journalism to be offered by Indiana University at its IUPUI Campus

Proposal received on December 18, 2009

CIP Code: Federal – 090499; State – 090499

Projected Annual Headcount: 56; FTEs: 30; Degrees: 24

New State Funds Requested, Actual:

Year 1: \$ 0

Year 2: \$ 0

Year 3: \$ 0

Year 4: \$ 0

Year 5: \$ 0

Indiana University currently offers a baccalaureate degree in Journalism at its IUPUI campus, which in FY2008 enrolled 266 headcount or 195 FTE students and had 41 graduates. This program will take advantage of the exceptional resources related to sports in Indianapolis. No other university in the country offers a graduate degree in Sports Journalism. The University has indicated its desire to offer this program through distance education at some point in the future, but this will require separate approval by the Commission.

Policy for New Academic Degree Programs on Which Staff Propose Expedited Action

September 2, 2004

Pursuant to the Commission's desire to expedite action on new academic degree program requests whenever possible, the staff has identified a set of factors, which though not exhaustive, suggest when a request might be considered for expedited action by consent and when a request would require Commission consideration prior to action. With respect to the latter, the presence of one or more of the following factors might suggest a significant policy issue for which Commission attention is needed before action can be taken:

- Consistency with the mission of the campus or institution
- Transfer of credit
- New program area
- New degree level for a campus
- Accreditation
- Unnecessary duplication of resources
- Significant investment of state resources

In the absence of these factors or an objection from another institution, Commission staff will propose expedited action on new program requests. Examples of situations that pose no policy issues for the Commission include, but are not limited to:

- Adding a second degree designation to an existing program (e.g. A.S. to an A.A.S.)
- Delivering an on-campus program to an off-campus site through faculty available on-site or traveling to the site
- Adding a degree elsewhere in a multi-campus system to a new campus within the system.

All requests to offer new academic degree programs must continue to be accompanied by a full program proposal, unless otherwise specified in the guidelines. It is only after a proposal is received that a determination will be suggested as to how the request might be handled.