

COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Friday, October 9, 2009

DECISION ITEM A-2: 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:

- B.A. in Social Work to be offered by Purdue University-North Central at Westville
- B.S. in Communication Studies to be offered by Indiana University East at Lawrenceburg

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*, September 25, 2009
- (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

September 25, 2009

CHE 09-29 B.A. in Social Work to be offered by Purdue University-North Central at Westville

Proposal received on June 9, 2009

CIP Code: Federal – 440701; State – 440701

Projected Annual Headcount: 50; FTEs: 50; Degrees: 25

New State Funds Requested, Actual:

Year 1: \$ 0

Year 2: \$ 0

Year 3: \$ 0

Year 4: \$ 0

Year 5: \$ 0

The Purdue University-North Central campus currently offers a Bachelor of Liberal Studies program, which in FY2008 enrolled 444 students, many of whom are thought to be seeking more specific, occupationally oriented degree programs, such as the proposed B.A. in Social Work. A baccalaureate in Social Work will prepare graduates for a variety of entry-level positions in community and social service agencies. An articulation agreement for the proposed program has been worked out with the Ivy Tech A.A. in Liberal Arts. This request is consistent with the Regional Campus Agreement and *Reaching Higher*.

CHE 09-37 B.S. in Communication Studies to be offered by Indiana University East at Lawrenceburg

Proposal received on August 14, 2009

CIP Code: Federal – 090101; State – 090101

Projected Annual Headcount: 20; FTEs: 20; Degrees: 10

New State Funds Requested, Actual:

Year 1: \$ 0

Year 2: \$ 0

Year 3: \$ 0

Year 4: \$ 0

Year 5: \$ 0

IU East developed this request in response to a need expressed by Ivy Tech Community College for additional opportunities for community college students to pursue baccalaureate degrees in the region. Hence, IU East and Ivy Tech have worked out an articulation agreement between the proposed degree and the A.A. in Liberal Arts. This request is consistent with the Regional Campus Agreement and *Reaching Higher*.

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.