

## COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Friday, December 11, 2009

### **DECISION ITEM A-4: 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./B.S. in Biochemistry to be offered by the University of Southern Indiana in Evansville
- B.S. in Nursing (Completion) to be offered by Purdue University Calumet Statewide via Distance Education Technology

#### **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*, November 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

November 25, 2009

### **CHE 09-51 B.A./B.S. in Biochemistry to be offered by the University of Southern Indiana in Evansville**

Proposal received on October 27, 2009

CIP Code: Federal – 260202; State – 260202

Projected Annual Headcount: 100; FTEs: 104; Degrees: 26

New State Funds Requested, Actual:

Year 1: \$ 0

Year 2: \$ 0

Year 3: \$ 0

Year 4: \$ 0

Year 5: \$ 0

USI currently offers a B.A./B.S. in Biology, which enrolled 430 headcount or 35 FTE students in FY2008 and had 35 graduates that same year. The University also has a B.A./B.S. in Chemistry which, in FY2008, enrolled 64 headcount or 57 FTE students and graduated 9 students. USI has an existing articulation agreement with Ivy Tech Evansville for Chemistry, which forms the basis for developing an articulation agreement with Ivy Tech for the B.A./B.S. in Biochemistry.

### **CHE 09-52 B.S. in Nursing (Completion) to be offered by Purdue University Calumet Statewide via Distance Education Technology**

Proposal received on November 2, 2009

CIP Code: Federal – 511601; State – 511601

Projected Annual Headcount: 190; FTEs: 120; Degrees: 90

New State Funds Requested, Actual:

Year 1: \$ 0

Year 2: \$ 0

Year 3: \$ 0

Year 4: \$ 0

Year 5: \$ 0

Purdue Calumet currently offers a B.S. in Nursing (Completion) on campus, which enrolled 83 headcount or 27 FTE students in FY2008. Existing articulation agreements with Ivy Tech and VU for the on-campus program will apply to the distance education offering.

## **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.