

OHIO BOARD OF REGENTS

Agenda Item 3.13 Wright State University, Master of Science in Pharmacology and Toxicology

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Chancellor and with the concurrence of the Regents' Advisory Committee on Graduate Study as well as the Initiatives Committee of the Ohio Board of Regents that the following new degree program is approved:

Wright State University
Master of Science in Pharmacology and Toxicology

BACKGROUND

WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY

Master of Science in Pharmacology and Toxicology

Wright State University seeks Regents' approval to offer the Master of Science in Pharmacology and Toxicology. The School of Medicine proposes the addition of this new degree program that would prepare students for challenging careers in industry, government, education, and research organizations. The new graduate program will be offered in collaboration with the U.S. Air Force and U.S. Navy Toxicology Laboratories located at the nearby Air Force Research Laboratory at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.

This degree program will provide students with a solid foundation in the broad range of theoretical concepts that comprise the disciplines of pharmacology and toxicology. The plan of study will develop professional strength through both practical and basic research experiences. Students in the program will acquire the historical context for the evolution of the field as well as learn state-of-the-art technological approaches to the solution of modern problems in pharmacology and toxicology. The number of students admitted into the program each year is expected to fall in the range of five to ten, which will yield a total of ten to twenty students in the two-year program at any given point in time.

The curriculum, for the most part, will be efficiently organized around existing courses in the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology. All students in this new master's degree program will be required to carry out research and defend a thesis describing their independent laboratory investigations. The entire program of study will require fifty quarter hours of credit.

The graduates of this program will be well suited for employment in the pharmaceutical industry as well as in more broadly based biotechnology companies. The rapid expansion of this sector of the economy during the early 1990s opened up many opportunities for new PhD graduates. It has been recently documented, however, that the current employment opportunities in this industrial sector are primarily for individuals trained at the master's and baccalaureate levels.

The Regents' Advisory Committee on Graduate Study has reviewed extensive written documentation provided by Wright State University on this proposed graduate program and, in response to expert reviews of these descriptive materials, provided the University with appropriate critical comments. The University, in turn, provided additional written descriptive materials and sent its program representatives to the February 23, 2001 meeting of the Regents' Advisory Committee on Graduate Study. After a detailed presentation by representatives of the School of Medicine and its Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, that was followed by questions from individual campus

representatives, the Regents' Advisory Committee on Graduate Study voted with unanimous assent to approve the Master of Science in Pharmacology and Toxicology degree program at Wright State University.