

## **OHIO BOARD OF REGENTS**

Agenda Item 3.11 Cleveland State University, Master of Nonprofit  
Administration and Leadership

### **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 Program Effectiveness, Research & Technology Committee of the Ohio Board of Regents that the following new degree program is approved:

Cleveland State University  
Master of Nonprofit Administration and Leadership

## BACKGROUND

### Cleveland State University

Master of Nonprofit Administration and Leadership

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY/RECOMMENDATION

**This program clearly meets Regents' standards for graduate programs. There were no serious concerns raised in the review. The Regents' Advisory Committee on Graduate Study has carried out a review of the academic plan and recommends that the program be approved.**

Cleveland State University (CSU) seeks Regents' approval for a new graduate degree program entitled Master of Nonprofit Administration and Leadership.

Currently, the CSU College of Urban Affairs offers a Master of Public Administration (MPA) degree program with a specialization in Nonprofit Administration and Leadership as well as a graduate certificate program in this same area. The present proposal involves the conversion of the MPA specialization into a stand-alone master's degree program with the new title, Master of Nonprofit Administration and Leadership. The program of study involves two prerequisite courses plus thirty-nine semester credit hours of core management skills (23 hours), electives (12 hours), and a capstone course (4 hours). The program will offer on-line and distance education components as well as intensive semester and executive education scheduling formats to accommodate working professionals and traditional graduate students.

Similarly focused graduate programs around Ohio are administered by Case Western Reserve University (Master of Nonprofit Organizations), Kent State University (MPA specialization area), Wright State University (graduate certificate program), Franklin University (graduate certificate program), and Ohio State University (MSW specialization area).

Since the inception of the CSU graduate certificate in Nonprofit Administration and Leadership in 2001, there have been ninety-seven graduates. This specialization has been steadily growing in student numbers, and currently it is the fastest growing segment of the CSU MPA program. Since there is strong demand for new graduates in this specialization area, it is anticipated that the program will grow substantially in the years ahead.

The university plans to initiate the program in the fall semester of 2007 with the current cohort of graduate students in the Nonprofit Administration and Leadership MPA specialization area and in the graduate certificate program. Additional numbers of in-service professionals and new post-baccalaureate students will complete the cohort of new admits. Student demand analyses project that the program will be initiated with at least thirty graduate students in the fall.

The Regents' Advisory Committee on Graduate Study (RACGS) has reviewed extensive written documentation provided by Cleveland State University and, in response to expert reviews of these program materials, provided the university with appropriate critical comments and concerns. The university, in turn, provided a response document and sent its program representatives to the February 23, 2007 meeting of RACGS. After a detailed presentation by representatives of the CSU College of Urban Affairs, the Regents' Advisory Committee on Graduate Study voted with unanimous assent to recommend approval of the Master of Nonprofit Administration and Leadership.