

OHIO BOARD OF REGENTS

Agenda Item 3.11 Youngstown State University, Master of Science in Environmental Studies

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:

Youngstown State University
Master of Science in Environmental Studies

BACKGROUND

UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI

Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences

Request: The University of Cincinnati seeks approval for a Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences. The B.S. in Health Sciences will be offered by the College of Allied Health and will be housed in the Department of Rehabilitation Sciences. The College of Allied Health has recently changed its physical therapy degree to a masters level program, in keeping with the entry level requirements of the profession. The undergraduate degree in physical therapy is being eliminated after the graduation class of Fall 2001. The proposed B.S. in Health Sciences is being requested to serve as both an appropriate undergraduate preparation for a graduate level physical therapy degree as well as a to serve the broader needs of those students interested in careers in the health care field.

Program Purpose/Mission: The Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences offers students the opportunity to pursue undergraduate coursework in the area of health science with applications to biomechanics, sports, exercise, wellness, gerontology, marketing, administration, industry, ergonomics and research. Integrated science preparation offers a strong background for individuals planning to apply to allied health and medical fields including athletic training, physical therapy, occupational therapy, genetic counseling and medicine. Concentrations will be offered as follows: Sports and Biomechanics, Exercise Science, Health Science, Allied Health Research.

Enrollments: The College anticipates that the program will attract approximately 25 new students each fall. In addition, UC enrolled 50 students in its undergraduate pre-physical therapy program. It is anticipated that a number of these students may choose to pursue the health sciences program.

Curriculum: Students in the proposed B.S. in Health Sciences will have an opportunity to pursue study in four areas of concentration: Sports and Biomechanics, Exercise Science, Health Management, and Allied Health Research. In addition to general education requirements, the degree program requires significant preparation in natural science (chemistry, physics, biology, human anatomy and physiology), psychology, ethics, statistics and research methods and related areas (more than 108 required hours). Students also have the opportunity to complete a senior project. Students complete at least 54 additional hours for a concentration area and can draw from a range of additional health care related electives.

Faculty: Faculty will come from within the College of Allied Health and related interdisciplinary areas. In addition, four new faculty will be added to the program over the coming four years.

Evidence of Need: Four institutions offer programs within a fifty mile radius: Miami University, Xavier University, the College of Mt. St. Joseph, and Wilmington College. These programs are not similar in content or

concentration areas, however. All four institutions offer athletic training and several provide sports organization and/or management. These efforts are different in their core course requirements and also do not fulfill the needs of students that may need preparation for graduate level allied health programs or that provide an emphasis on biomechanics.

Licensure Requirements: There are no licensure requirements associated with degrees in health sciences. Licensing is generally attached to the specific allied health professional program such as physical therapy, for which this program may provide a entry pathway.

Resource Needs: As the proposed degree is housed in the College of Allied Health Sciences, facilities are sufficiently available for faculty and students including recently renovated laboratory, classroom and office space. Computer facilities were updated in 1999 and electronic classrooms provide additional learning technology. Four additional faculty (to be phased in over the initial four years) will be added to develop and teach in the program, although existing faculty in the College have the content expertise needed to develop many of the core and/or elective courses. Interdisciplinary coursework will fulfill many requirements in areas such as research, kinesiology, and exercise physiology. Only one full time faculty member will be needed in year one. Additional clerical support will be gradually increased. Resources to support these additional faculty/staff needs will be drawn from student enrollments and based upon conservative estimates of such enrollments.