

OHIO BOARD OF REGENTS

Agenda Item 3.10 Bowling Green State University, Master of Science in Criminal Justice

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:

Bowling Green State University
Master of Science in Criminology

BACKGROUND

BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY

Master of Science in Criminal Justice

Bowling Green State University seeks Regents' approval for a graduate degree program entitled Master of Science in Criminal Justice (MSCJ). This proposed new graduate program adheres to national standards in the discipline for the preparation of degree candidates to assume leadership roles in criminal justice agencies as well as to enter a criminal justice doctoral program. This master's degree program would provide students with a solid foundation of knowledge in law enforcement, corrections, deviant behavior, courts, juvenile justice as well as race, gender, and diversity issues in criminal justice. The anticipated implementation date is the fall semester of 2001.

The professional environment for the field of Criminal Justice has undergone significant evolutionary changes in recent years making it less and less likely that practicing professionals are prepared to meet the new challenges. Driving these changes are relatively high levels of crime in our communities coupled with increasing public concern over violence, particularly in the schools, the workplace, urban environments, and sports venues. Most professionals currently employed in the field do not have the requisite education, or expertise, to respond properly to the major changes impinging on their profession. Changes like new models of adjudication, community policing, and the mandates of recent legislation all combine to place great stress on the current Criminal Justice system. The proposed new graduate degree program at Bowling Green State University will help to address this lack of adequately prepared human resources through the development of new master's degree graduates with specific training for the modern profession of Criminal Justice and, also, through the enhancement of the skills and knowledge of individuals currently employed by criminal justice agencies.

The Regents' Advisory Committee on Graduate Study has reviewed extensive written documentation provided by Bowling Green State University on this proposed graduate degree 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 March 30, 2001 meeting of the Regents' Advisory Committee on Graduate Study. After a detailed presentation by representatives of the College of Health and Human Services, 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 degree program in Criminal Justice at Bowling Green State University.