

OHIO BOARD OF REGENTS

Agenda Item 3.7 Ohio State University, Master of Physical Therapy

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:

Ohio State University
Master of Physical Therapy

BACKGROUND

Ohio State University

Master of Physical Therapy

The Ohio State University seeks Regents' approval for a graduate degree program entitled Master of Physical Therapy (MPT). This proposed new graduate program in Physical Therapy adheres to national standards in the discipline for the preparation of degree candidates for professional certification in Physical Therapy. This program would provide an entry-level post-baccalaureate professional degree that would replace entirely The Ohio State University's current baccalaureate degree program in Physical Therapy. The anticipated implementation date is Summer Quarter of 2001.

At the national level the field of Physical Therapy has evolved from a professional environment of dependent supervised practice into one of truly independent supervisory practice. The increasing demands of the Physical Therapy profession, therefore, require that the entry-level professional be fully capable of applying complex problem solving techniques, critical inquiry, and independent decision-making in order to be fully effective in this new health care environment. The requisite higher level of practitioner performance, involving independent rather than dependent practice, is less consistent with an undergraduate program of study and far more consistent with the more rigorous demands of an advanced degree program, like the Master of Physical Therapy degree program. Accordingly, the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education has adopted a plan to limit the scope of professional accreditation to post-baccalaureate educational programs as of January of 2002. The Master of Physical Therapy degree program proposal, therefore, is intended to bring The Ohio State University program into compliance with these new professional accreditation standards.

The Regents' Advisory Committee on Graduate Study has reviewed extensive written documentation provided by The Ohio 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 June 30, 2000 meeting of the Regents' Advisory Committee on Graduate Study. After a detailed presentation by representatives of the School of Allied Medical Professions 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 Physical Therapy degree program at The Ohio State University.