

BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

Notre Dame College

RECOMMENDATION

Notre Dame College meets the Chancellor's standards for graduate programs and the review team recommends authorization for the Master of Arts in Security Policy Studies degree program. Authorization will continue through December 31, 2011 to coincide with the college's next institutional reauthorization review with the Chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents. Authorization is contingent upon the submission of annual progress reports by December 31, 2010, 2011, and 2012, which address any concerns that remain. Authorization will be withdrawn if, in the Chancellor's judgment, such reports do not demonstrate satisfactory progress toward compliance with the Chancellor's standards.

Profile: Notre Dame College, located in South Euclid, Ohio, is a co-educational independent institution affiliated with the Roman Catholic Church. Originally established in 1922 as a four-year liberal arts institution for women, the college today prepares a diverse student body for "personal, professional and global responsibility."

Accreditation/Authorization: Notre Dame College is regionally accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. In addition, the college has been authorized by the Chancellor since August 1969.

Program Information: The college is requesting authorization to deliver a Master of Arts in Security Policy Studies degree program. The mission of the program is to "prepare a diverse population for responsible service in the security, policy and intelligence community in the tradition of the Sisters of Notre Dame." The thirty-six semester credit hour program includes content from a variety of fields (criminal justice, public administration, political science, law, intelligence, environmental health and safety, nursing, and leadership) and culminates with a capstone project.

Review Results: The review team noted several strengths in the review, including: the program mission is aligned with the institutional mission; learning objectives and outcomes, which were evident and embedded throughout the program; the inclusion of a capstone experience in the program; appropriately credentialed faculty with varying professional experience (i.e., local, state, federal agencies); flexible program delivery options (accelerated and online); and existing resources in place to support and maintain the program.

The team also noted some areas of non-compliance with the Chancellor's standards and recommended that the institution: clarify admissions procedures and standards; develop a policy for transfer students; establish an Institutional Review Board before the first capstone course is offered; develop a plan for hiring additional full-time faculty as the program grows; explain the role, responsibilities and qualifications of the Capstone Review Committee; and clarify student enrollment projections for the first three years of the program.

The institution responded appropriately to the recommendations of the consultants' report by demonstrating how the recommendations were accepted and integrated into the proposed program, or, in the case of recommendations that could only be complied with over time, by presenting a clear plan for the implementation of the recommendations and a timeline for such.

Recommendation to the Chancellor: Notre Dame College meets the Chancellor's standards for graduate programs and the review team recommends authorization for the Master of Arts in Security Policy Studies degree program. Authorization will continue through December 31, 2011 to coincide with the college's next institutional reauthorization review with the Chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents. Authorization is contingent upon the submission of annual progress reports by December 31, 2010, 2011, and 2012, which address any concerns that remain. Authorization will be withdrawn if, in the Chancellor's judgment, such reports do not demonstrate satisfactory progress toward compliance with the Chancellor's standards.

End of Comment Period: July 28, 2010
No Comments Received, Recommend Approval

APPROVED	
	2/9/10
Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor	Date

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