

BACKGROUND AND RECOMMENDATION

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY Bachelor of Science in City and Regional Planning

RECOMMENDATION

This program meets the Chancellor's minimum standards for baccalaureate degrees. There were no concerns identified in the review. Approval is recommended.

Request: The Ohio State University requests approval for a Bachelor of Science in City and Regional Planning. The proposed program provides an additional option for students at the undergraduate level and is supported by the existing graduate programs in the Knowlton School of Architecture located in the University's College of Engineering. The proposed program builds from an existing undergraduate minor in city and regional planning and is distinguished from the graduate level program by the depth of technical, economic and quantitative knowledge emphasized through the curriculum.

Program Purpose/Mission: The Bachelor of Science in City and Regional Planning is an undergraduate degree program that provides students with a comprehensive liberal arts education combined with entry-level knowledge for a planning career. The proposed degree will qualify graduates to sit for certification by the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP). Graduates of city and regional planning programs are typically employed with state and local governments or private sector companies that serve local governments.

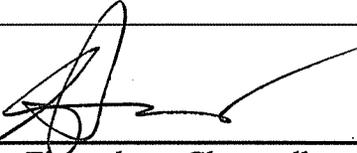
Enrollment and Market Need: Ohio State University anticipates that many new enrollments will come from existing students in the college, from related majors, or as transfer students for a total program enrollment of approximately 110 - 120 (of which 10-15% may be new students to Ohio State). Ohio State has analyzed job opportunities and requirements for regional planning positions nationally. Two-thirds of all jobs in the profession are open to students with bachelor's degrees. Historically these positions required master's degrees, but, increasingly, entry-level planning positions are filled with students prepared through undergraduate programs with opportunities for interdisciplinary study in related disciplines rather than the depth of technical expertise available in the graduate program. The number of baccalaureate degree programs, however, has not kept pace with the demand. There are currently 70 accredited graduate programs and only half as many undergraduate programs. While there is some salary differential between undergraduate and graduated-prepared job candidates, the difference is not extreme.

Curriculum: The professional field of city and regional planning relies on the development of skills and knowledge in land use and physical planning, development regulation and administration, zoning, project management, computer applications, data analysis and survey methods, public relations, and policy planning. Students have the option to concentrate in one of several

areas, including generalist, physical planner, environmental or economic planner. The proposed degree program provides students a culminating capstone experience in a contemporary work setting and service learning opportunities. The Bachelor of Science in City and Regional Planning is also a viable dual major option for students in architecture, landscape architecture, geography, natural resources, environmental sciences, engineering and construction management.

Resource/Faculty Needs: Ohio State's Knowlton School of Architecture provides sufficient physical resources for the program. Planning for the facility provided for the expansion of programs into new undergraduate majors. Ohio State has completed an extensive resource/space analysis and there are no concerns regarding support for the program. Current faculty in the School of Architecture and related departments are extensive and sufficient to support the program. Two additional faculty positions are projected over a five year period and one additional advising position, based upon the anticipated growth of the program.

End of Comment Period: May 11, 2009
No Comments Received, Recommend Approval

	<i>5-22-09</i>
Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor	Date

MLC