

BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

University of Cincinnati
Master of Health Administration

Recommendation

The proposed program clearly meets the Chancellor's standards for graduate degree programs. There were no serious concerns raised in the review. The Regents' Advisory Committee on Graduate Study voted unanimously to recommend approval for the new program.

Request: The College of Allied Health Sciences at the University of Cincinnati requests approval for a new Master of Health Administration (MHA) degree.

Program Purpose/Mission: The proposed MHA program will provide the necessary knowledge, skills and competencies for health care administrators, managers and clinicians to assume leadership roles in health care organizations. Learning methods will include traditional and innovative strategies combined with capstone and practicum experiences. A hallmark of the proposed program is its asynchronous, distance-learning approach, which makes health care administration management education available to students who cannot otherwise pursue such an education.

Enrollments: Given that the proposed MHA program is designed for those in full-time employment, the majority of enrollees are expected to be part-time, enrolled in two courses per quarter. UC projects that 40 students will be enrolled in the program by the end of Year 1 with steady enrollment growth through Year 5, when an enrollment of 110 students is projected.

Curriculum: The proposed curriculum program consists of a minimum of 60 quarter hours, beginning with a 36 quarter hour core curriculum which includes: Health Systems Organization and Delivery; Principles of Health Systems Organization Leadership; Health Policy; Health Economics; Financial Decision-Making for Health Care; Legal & Ethical Issues in Health Care Management; Health Care Decision-Making for Managers; Health Care Program Management; and Informatics in Health Systems Management. The core is supplemented by a 24 quarter hour concentration, culminating in a Capstone course. The degree contains both distance-learning and residential requirements consistent with emerging accreditation guidelines.

Faculty, Facilities and Resources: Sufficient faculty, facilities and resources are in place for the proposed program. Each course will have a course director, which is typically full-time university faculty, with the exception of the distance learning aspect of this program that allows UC to include distinguished faculty who are national experts from other schools and professional settings to serve as instructors. At this time, there will be three full-time faculty members and one half-time faculty member from the College of Allied Health Sciences, three faculty members from the College of Business and two faculty members from the University's MPH program. Additional faculty members will be hired as the program grows. Recently renovated office space already is

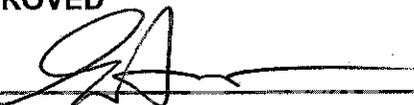
available for faculty and staff. UC has a world-class library system with excellent online databases for distance learning students to access. The proposed program is expected to return a positive balance in the second year of operations, and over the first five years will generate nearly an additional \$1 million in new net income to the university.

Rationale and Need:

The increase in the demand in health care services by an aging population and increasingly aware consumers requires a growing supply of well-educated health care administrators. The United States Government Bureau of Labor Statistics has recently forecast the "Fastest Growing Occupations, 2002-2012." Among the thirty occupations listed in the report, sixteen were in the health care and health care related fields. The health care sector will attract large numbers of students at the graduate level, and the proposed University of Cincinnati Master of Health Administration degree program is positioned to serve this new and growing audience.

There are three universities in Ohio which offer the Master of Health Administration degree: The Ohio State University, Ohio University and Xavier University. The proposed Master of Health Administration program is not in competition with these programs, and possibilities for cooperation and collaboration are being explored.

End of Comment Period: November 8, 2010
No Comments Received, Recommend Approval

APPROVED

Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor
11/15/10
Date

mlc