

BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

Heidelberg College

Master of Music Education

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY/RECOMMENDATION

Heidelberg College meets minimum Ohio Board of Regents' standards for graduate degree programs. There were concerns raised in the review resulting in a recommendation for authorization through December 2012, with annual progress reports due June 30, 2009, 2010, and 2011. A follow-up review will be performed by December 31, 2012 to determine continued authorization.

Profile: Heidelberg College is an independent institution, affiliated with the United Church of Christ. The college, established in 1850, is located in Tiffin, Ohio and offers degrees at the baccalaureate and master's level.

The mission of the institution is as follows: "Heidelberg College is a community of learning that promotes and nurtures intellectual, personal and professional development, leading to a life of purpose with distinction."

Accreditation/Authorization: Heidelberg College is regionally accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and has been continuously authorized by the Ohio Board of Regents since 1969. The college's current authorization expires December 31, 2016.

Program Information: The Master of Music Education degree, a thirty-semester hour program, was developed in alignment of the standards for graduate music education programs by the National Association of Schools of Music. The mission of the program is threefold:

1. To enable students to enhance their competence as music teachers by increasing their knowledge in music content, pedagogy, and understanding of the learning process;
2. To produce leaders in music education through teaching, service to the profession, and continuing inquiry; and
3. As part of the Heidelberg College community, the Master of Music Education program is a community of learning that promotes and nurtures intellectual, personal and professional development, leading to a life of purpose with distinction.

The program includes courses in music history, research, and theory; music teaching and learning; curriculum design in education; topics in music education; human growth development; and child and adolescent development. The program culminates in a capstone project or master's thesis.

Review Results: Among the strengths noted in the review, the consultant was impressed with the faculty identified to teach in the program; the institution's commitment and long-term planning to ensure program sustainability and success; the alignment of program outcomes to the accreditation standards of the National Association of Schools of Music; and the delivery format (summer only) to reduce faculty teaching loads, advising, and other administrative duties assumed during the regular academic term.

Among the weaknesses noted, the consultant found that several of the course syllabi were not fully developed; a formal assessment plan had not been specifically developed for the program; institutional and program goals were not aligned with the course outcomes; and faculty expectations for scholarship were not clearly defined. The college responded appropriately to the suggestions and recommendations of the consultant's report by submitting: 1) uniform syllabi for all courses; 2) a curriculum matrix that maps course objectives to program and institutional goals; 3) a program assessment and evaluation plan; and 4) the requirements and expectations for faculty scholarship.

Recommendation to the Chancellor: Heidelberg College meets minimum Ohio Board of Regents' standards for graduate degree programs. There were concerns raised in the review resulting in a recommendation for authorization through December 2012, with annual progress reports due June 30, 2009, 2010, and 2011. A follow-up review will be performed by December 31, 2012 to determine continued authorization.

End of Comment Period: September 12, 2008
No Comments Received, Recommend Approval

Approved:



Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor

9/22/09

Date