

BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY

Master of Science in Leadership Development (MSLD)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY/RECOMMENDATION

This program clearly meets Regents' standards for graduate degree programs. The Regents' Advisory Committee on Graduate Study voted unanimous approval for the new program. There were no serious concerns raised in the review.

Request: The Department of Educational Leadership in the College of Education and Human Services at Wright State University seeks approval for a Master of Science in Leadership Development degree.

Program Purpose/Mission: The model for the Master of Science in Leadership Development degree program is a cohort-based, multidisciplinary community of scholar-practitioners structured to enable students to develop ongoing intellectual relationships with one another, faculty, and the professional community. The proposed program will prepare individuals for leadership roles in a variety of contexts. The program will integrate the principles of individual-based *leader* development with the concept of *leadership* development focused on processes that build the capacity of groups. Consistent with the program philosophy, the major goal of the program is to prepare candidates capable of applying knowledge, strategies, and research to challenges encountered in organizations. The individual leader development component of the proposed program will focus on enhancing students' self-understandings and intrapersonal competencies as necessary prerequisites for engaging in leadership processes that ultimately enhance how organizational members work together in meaningful and productive ways. The MSLD program uniquely interweaves these essential dimensions, providing an integrated approach to understanding and enacting leadership in formal and informal contexts.

Enrollments: Master's degree students should be employed or interning in an organizational setting at the time of admission. A maximum of 25 master's degree candidates per cohort is projected for acceptance into the program. A candidate must have a bachelor degree and three years of work experience or the equivalent. Candidates must also satisfy the admission requirements of a minimum 2.7 GPA and take the GRE or MAT as set forth by the School of Graduate Studies and the College of Education and Human Services. Candidates with a 3.0 or higher GPA are not required to submit GRE or MAT scores.

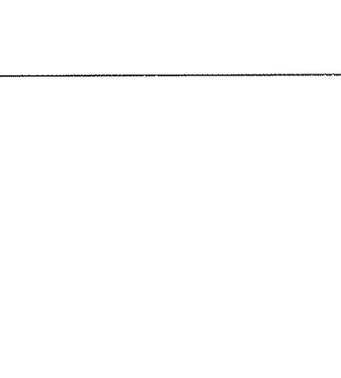
Curriculum: The proposed program, totaling 45 quarter hours, will require a cohort model of course offerings with program-related experiences to integrate theory and practice. Classes will meet on a non-traditional schedule to allow for employment (e.g., evenings, weekends, web-enhanced, and web-based). Key areas of study are; Intrapersonal and interpersonal competencies, Theories and research on organizing and leading, and Leadership processes. The program will offer students the option of pursuing the Master of Science degree by completing a field-based research project or a thesis. Students will complete a common eleven-course sequence followed by a five-hour Research Project credit or five-hours of Thesis credit. New 700 and 800 level courses are being developed for the program.

Faculty, Facilities and Resources:

The Department of Educational Leadership in the College of Education and Human Services has five faculty members and two administrators currently teaching in the undergraduate Organizational Leadership program. All seven faculty members have earned doctorates and are engaged in scholarly activities related to leadership. The department has the necessary expertise to support the proposed MSLD program, and faculty and facilities are in place to initiate the program. Within two years of the program's start-up, one additional full-time faculty member may be needed. Long-term classroom space projections will be included in the College of Education and Human Services strategic planning submission to the university. Some costs for initiating the program are projected to provide promotional materials and a stipend for the Program Advisor. Anticipated costs related to enrollment growth after two years may include one additional Assistant Professor.

Evidence of Need: A master's degree program needs assessment was completed in March 2006 by the Wright State Center for Urban and Public Affairs. More than eighty percent of the employers who responded to the surveys indicated that one or more of their employees would benefit from this degree, and 60.5% indicated that they would provide some form of financial assistance to their employees to seek further education. Of the total alumni responding to the survey, approximately one quarter had attended a master's degree program following graduation from their undergraduate degree program. Close to eighty percent of those with a master's degree indicated they would have considered a Master in Leadership at Wright State had it been available. Wright State University's MSLD program of study is one of the first in the country to be aligned with the International Leadership Association's (www.ila-net.org) newly drafted leadership program guidelines.

End of Comment Period: August 7, 2008
No Comments Received, Recommend Approval

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| Approved  | 9/15/08 |
| Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor | Date |