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FOR
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

Committee Meeting: 2/26/2019

Board Meeting: 2/26/2019
Austin, Texas

*Ernest Aliseda, Chairman
Paul L. Foster
R. Steven Hicks
Jeffery D. Hildebrand
Janiece Longoria
Rad Weaver*

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1. **U. T. System Board of Regents: Discussion and appropriate action regarding Consent Agenda items, if any, assigned for Committee consideration**

RECOMMENDATION

The proposed Consent Agenda items assigned to this Committee are [Items 13 - 46](#).

2a. U. T. Dallas: Approval of preliminary authority for a Doctor of Business Administration degree program

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and the institutional president that the U. T. System Board of Regents approve

- a. preliminary authority for U. T. Dallas to create a Doctor of Business Administration degree program; and
- b. notification of the proposal to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

U. T. Dallas requests preliminary authority to amass the resources needed to offer a Doctor of Business Administration (DBA). The program will focus on the application of business theory to solve practitioner problems by addressing real-world business issues. The program is intended for students who are interested in practice-based research and applicable knowledge required to analyze and create effective solutions to complex problems likely to be faced in a business environment. Additionally, DBA graduates, like Ph.D. graduates, will be qualified to work in academia or industry. The self-funded program will require 72 semester credit hours (SCH) and students in the program will attend on a part-time basis. Students will take six SCH during each fall, spring, and summer semesters, allowing them to complete the program in four years.

No public institutions of higher education in Texas offer a DBA. Only two private institutions in the state offer the program, University of Dallas in Irving and University of the Incarnate Word in San Antonio.

The proposed program would build on U. T. Dallas's existing Ph.D. in Management Sciences within the Naveen Jindal School of Management. The U. T. Dallas Naveen Jindal School of Management is ranked 15th among public institutions and 37th overall for Best Business Schools by *Bloomberg Businessweek* (2018) and ranked 19th among public institutions and 40th overall by *U.S. News & World Report* (2019 edition).

Once preliminary authority has been approved, U. T. Dallas will submit the full degree program proposal for approval by the U. T. System Board of Regents and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

2b. U. T. Rio Grande Valley: Approval of preliminary authority for a Doctor of Philosophy in Human Genetics degree program

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and the institutional president that the U. T. System Board of Regents approve

- a. preliminary authority for U. T. Rio Grande Valley to create a Doctor of Philosophy in Human Genetics degree program; and
- b. notification of the proposal to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

U. T. Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV) requests preliminary authority to amass the resources needed to offer a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Human Genetics. The program will be focused on applications of human genetics to medicine and will encompass training across the breadth of genetics from molecular genetics through computational approaches to analysis. Because of the location of the program in the Rio Grande Valley, there will be a natural focus on research on the diseases and conditions that disproportionately affect minority populations, particularly Hispanics/Mexican Americans.

The proposed program, offered through the School of Medicine, will address a growing need for researchers in human genetics and genomics. The expected growth in need for human biomedical geneticists is substantial, with the primary need for advanced genomic/genetic scientists growing at a rate of nearly 20% per year, particularly in the areas of statistical genetics/genomics, genetic bioinformatics, and computational genetics.

The research expertise of the faculty in the School of Medicine's Department of Human Genetics encompasses the full range of health disparities highly relevant for Texas and for the Rio Grande Valley region.

Once preliminary authority has been approved, UTRGV will submit the full degree program proposal for approval by the U. T. System Board of Regents and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

2c. U. T. Rio Grande Valley: Approval of preliminary authority for a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree program

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and the institutional president that the U. T. System Board of Regents approve

- a. preliminary authority for U. T. Rio Grande Valley to create a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree program; and
- b. notification of the proposal to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

U. T. Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV) requests preliminary authority to assemble the resources needed to offer a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) with a focus on interprofessional team building. Graduates of the program would be prepared to take on roles in clinical and administrative leadership, as well as nursing education and research. The University anticipates initial enrollment of a cohort of 15 students. The program would be housed in the UTRGV School of Medicine. Accreditation will be pursued from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.

The job market for advanced practice nurses and postsecondary nursing instructors is very strong nationally and even more so in Texas. It is expected that between 2016 and 2026, the State of Texas will increase its employment of nurse practitioners by nearly 44%, nurse anesthetists by approximately 26%, and postsecondary nursing instructors by approximately 30%. Further, the Texas Workforce Commission determined that seven of the 25 fastest growing industries in Texas are health care related, including the top two (outpatient care centers and home health care services).

There are 13 Doctor of Nursing Practice programs in Texas, but none of them are in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. The closest existing program is located in Corpus Christi, approximately 144 miles from the Edinburg campus of U. T. Rio Grande Valley. There are approximately 280 DNP programs across the country.

Once preliminary authority has been approved, UTRGV will submit the full degree program proposal for approval by the U. T. System Board of Regents and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

2d. U. T. Rio Grande Valley: Approval of preliminary authority for a Doctor of Podiatric Medicine degree program

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and the institutional president that the U. T. System Board of Regents approve

- a. preliminary authority for U. T. Rio Grande Valley to create a Doctor of Podiatric Medicine degree program; and
- b. notification of the proposal to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

U. T. Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV) requests preliminary authority to amass the resources needed to offer a Doctor of Podiatric Medicine (DPM). The proposed DPM at UTRGV will prepare students for state licensure and entry into the practice of Podiatry. The institution anticipates enrollment of a cohort of 40 students at full maturity.

The degree program will be structured as a four-year, full-time doctoral curriculum in accordance with, and as required by, the American Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine. The DPM will be designed as the only program in the nation to be structured specifically in alignment with an allopathic medical program. The program will utilize new core faculty with expertise in podiatric medicine along with existing faculty at the School of Medicine.

According to the *U.S. News & World Report*, podiatry is ranked 19th among the best health care jobs, 15th for best paying jobs, and 29th among the top 100 best jobs. Currently, Texas ranks 36th in the nation in terms of the patient-to-podiatrist ratio. Nationally, the number of podiatrist jobs is projected to grow by over 10% from 2016-2026. Finally, the Location Quotient (LQ) is an analytic statistic that measures a region's specialty relative to a larger geographic region, e.g., Texas vs. the U.S. An LQ of one means the region and the nation have the same statistical representation of that specialty. The LQ for podiatry in Texas is .59, indicating that the state has a recognized statistical shortage of podiatrists.

Nationwide, there are nine accredited podiatric medicine programs offered by two public and seven private institutions. The Doctor of Podiatric Medicine proposed by UTRGV would be the first such program in Texas.

Once preliminary authority has been approved, UTRGV will submit the full degree program proposal for approval by the U. T. System Board of Regents and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

3a. U. T. Rio Grande Valley: Approval to establish a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree program

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and the institutional president that authorization, pursuant to the Regents' *Rules and Regulations*, Rule 40307, related to academic program approval standards, be granted to

- a. establish a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree program at U. T. Rio Grande Valley; and
- b. submit the proposal to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for review and appropriate action.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Program Description

U. T. Rio Grande Valley proposes to develop a Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) professional degree program that prepares students to be eligible for state licensure and entry into the profession as a physical therapist. The DPT program will be an accredited, three-year, full-time program consisting of 113 semester credit hours of didactic, laboratory, and clinical instruction.

Physical therapy is a dynamic profession with an established theoretical and scientific base and widespread clinical application in the restoration, maintenance, and promotion of optimal physical performance. Minority physical therapists are underrepresented in the profession. As a Hispanic-Serving Institution with an almost 90% Hispanic student body, the DPT program will be a major contributor to increasing the diversity of the profession. The ability of the proposed program to attract and educate well-qualified ethnic and diverse students directly supports the mission of the institution and will provide highly trained therapists to help address the unmet physical therapy needs in the Rio Grande Valley.

The DPT program will draw on collaborations within existing programs at U. T. Rio Grande Valley such as occupational therapy, communications disorders, medicine, physician assistant studies, nursing, pharmacy, social work, and health and human performance to educate therapists in an interprofessional team setting.

Need and Student Demand

The demand for physical therapy services has outpaced the supply of physical therapists in the United States, Texas, and especially South Texas. Shortages are expected to increase for all 50 states through 2030 with the largest shortages projected for states in the south and west. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) projects a much higher than average increase in the number of physical therapists positions needing to be filled. Between 2016-2026, the BLS projects a 28% increase in the number of physical therapist positions in the U.S. In Texas, the number of physical therapist positions will increase by 31% during the same 10-year period. The Texas Workforce Commission projects 5,025 more physical therapy positions during that time.

The State of Texas currently has a grade of C from Health Carousel for lacking these key professionals and is expected to move into the F range by 2020. In the Rio Grande Valley, hospitals, home health agencies, and nursing homes are advertising for physical therapists, offering bonuses, and paying well above the national average. Due to the shortage, physical therapist salaries are 11% higher in the Rio Grande Valley compared to the national average.

Historically, students from the Rio Grande Valley seeking a doctoral degree in physical therapy travel to other regions of Texas for their education. The closest program is in San Antonio, over 250 miles away. Anecdotal evidence suggests many of the students from the Rio Grande Valley end up returning to the Rio Grande Valley as their site of preference for their clinical rotations. Lastly, many of these Doctor of Physical Therapy graduates end up staying in the Rio Grande Valley to establish their careers.

An average class size of 40 students is within the common range of class sizes in physical therapy programs across the nation. The cumulative headcount and full-time student equivalents (FTSE) for the proposed program were determined from the average number of candidates enrolled per cohort in other programs in Texas. Based on statistical data from U. T. Rio Grande Valley's M.S. in Occupational Therapy, the rate of attrition is estimated to be 5% or less. A loss of 1-2 students per cohort is predicted.

Enrollment Projections

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
White	10	10	10	10	10
African American	2	2	2	2	2
Hispanic	25	25	25	25	25
International	2	2	2	2	2
Other	1	1	1	1	1
Cumulative Headcount	40	79	118	157	197
FTSE	40	79	118	157	197
Attrition	1	1	1	0	0
Graduates	0	0	36	37	37

Program Quality

The program is projected to require a mean of 11 full-time core faculty and one part-time core faculty devoted to its students, including a Program Director, a Director of Clinical Education, and other faculty who report to the Program Director. The program will also have a mean of eight associated/support faculty. The core and associated faculty will together comprise the collective academic faculty resulting in a faculty-to-student ratio of 1:12 and a 1:13 ratio in laboratory experiences. These ratios are in alignment with other DPT programs. The faculty will be a blend of individuals with doctoral preparation and/or clinical specialization sufficient to meet the program goals and expected outcomes.

Support for student success will be provided throughout the program. A faculty member will be assigned to each new student in the program as an Academic Advisor and will serve as such throughout the duration of the program. Academic Advisors' responsibilities will include

counseling students regarding academics, clinical performance, professional behavior, and portfolio development. Advising will be aligned with guidelines and recommendations promulgated by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE).

The core faculty have not been hired at this time but will be hired immediately after the approval and hiring of a DPT Program Director. The search for a Program Director is currently underway.

Revenue and Expenses

Expenses	5-Year Total
<i>Faculty</i>	
Salaries	\$ 6,098,687
Benefits	\$ 1,829,606
<i>Graduate Students</i>	
GRA Salaries	\$ 125,000
<i>Staff & Administration</i>	
Administrative Staff Salaries	\$ 398,186
Staff Benefits	\$ 119,586
<i>Other Expenses</i>	
Program Operating Expenses	\$ 59,000
Supplies and Materials	\$ 420,000
Library Resources	\$ 50,000
Equipment	\$ 830,000
Facilities	\$ 650,000
Marketing and Recruitment	\$ 35,000
Travel Costs	\$ 125,000
Accreditation Fees	\$ 42,000
Clinical Site Costs	\$ 180,000
Total Expenses	\$ 10,962,065

Revenue	5-Year Total
<i>From Student Enrollment</i>	
Formula Funding	\$ 3,179,936
Tuition and Fees	\$ 7,940,716
<i>From Institutional Funds</i>	
Reallocation of Existing Faculty Salaries	\$ 3,914,106
Total Revenue	\$ 15,034,758

Coordinating Board Criteria

The proposed program meets all applicable Coordinating Board criteria for new doctoral degree programs.

3b. U. T. Tyler: Approval to establish a Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) degree program in School Improvement

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and the institutional president that authorization, pursuant to the Regent's *Rules and Regulations*, Rule 40307, related to academic program approval standards, be granted to

- a. establish a Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) degree program in School Improvement at U. T. Tyler; and
- b. submit the proposal to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for review and appropriate action.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Program Description

The College of Education and Psychology at U. T. Tyler proposes a 60 semester credit hour (SCH) Ed.D. program in School Improvement with the intent to develop educational leaders who have the skills to identify education deficiencies and effectively and efficiently develop innovative action plans that result in school improvement. The program objectives will include the development of school leaders' awareness of the needs of diverse student populations and the impact their needs have on the school improvement process. The proposed program will be primarily online with opportunities for face-to-face seminars to facilitate collaboration and provide support for successful, timely completion of the program.

Need and Student Demand

In 2018, the Texas Education Agency released the first accountability scores for districts using the new A-F Accountability System. The preliminary ratings released in 2017 had two-thirds of the districts scoring C or below. The 2018 ratings were a little higher due to adjustments designed to limit the impact of socioeconomic factors. The 2018 results indicate that 39% of districts scored a C or below.

For decades, research has indicated that students' socioeconomic status is the most important factor in student learning and achievement. Texas schools are not an anomaly, and research has shown that low-performing schools are disproportionately located in areas with a high number of diverse students, which includes those from ethnic minority groups and economically disadvantaged backgrounds. This suggests the need for strategic planning and organizational change to address the influences of these diverse backgrounds in considering low student achievement.

The need for an Ed.D. in School Improvement extends beyond student academic achievement. The workforce will demand well-educated school leaders with the skills to impact student achievement. The Texas Workforce Commission identified educational administration and instructional coordination among the fastest-growing occupations requiring graduate degrees.

The Commission projected an increase of 257,560 employment opportunities in educational services from 2014-2024. Over 185,000 (74%) of those jobs will be in elementary and secondary public and private schools. Elementary and secondary schools will add the second highest number of jobs in the state when compared to other industries.

The number of doctoral programs focused on factors connected to school improvement initiatives is scarce. Only five school improvement doctoral programs exist across the country, with one in Texas. The Texas State University Ph.D. in School Improvement, a face-to-face program, receives approximately 30 applications each year and admits 33-50% of the applicants. Of the students who earned their Ph.D. from Texas State University from 2014-2017, 93% were employed within one year of graduation. The only other online doctoral program in School Improvement in the United States is at the University of West Georgia. That program receives approximately 300 applications annually and admits less than 10%.

The U. T. Tyler Ed.D. in School Improvement will admit cohorts of 25 students a year with an estimated completion time of four years. Starting in Year Four, there will be 100 students in the program annually. U. T. Tyler will make every effort to recruit doctoral students from diverse groups to match the demographics of the student population in Texas schools.

Program Quality

The College of Education and Psychology has faculty with experience in a broad scope of educational settings. The core faculty of the proposed program have a combined 134 years of experience in higher education. Over the last five years, they have published over 70 refereed papers, 31 book chapters, and 11 books, and have secured over \$132 million in external grant funds. All eight core faculty members have served on dissertation committees and three have served as chairs. Several have led doctoral committees at Carnegie Research One institutions in Florida and Iowa as well as at Research Two institutions in Idaho, Illinois, and Oklahoma. Two of the faculty are endowed chairs and have national reputations in their respective areas of literacy and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education.

One unique aspect of the program is that all tenure-track faculty in the School of Education within the College of Education and Technology could contribute to the program as supporting faculty. While six faculty members are listed in the proposal as support faculty, an additional seven faculty members have doctoral degrees and could also serve within the program. This will allow each faculty support member to be mentored by core faculty and acquire the experience that will allow them to direct dissertations in the future; thus, leveraging the faculty resources of the College and serving more students in the program. To reassign senior faculty members who have experience working with doctoral students, funds have been budgeted to hire two new assistant professors. One new assistant professor will replace a core faculty member who will be reassigned, and a second assistant professor with a terminal degree in school improvement will be hired.

Currently, the School of Education is participating in the U. T. System PreK-12 School Turnaround Partnership, which enables the faculty to work with chronically underperforming campuses. Through this initiative, the School of Education has begun to develop a rich research base of theoretical models and applied strategies that impact student achievement.

Revenue and Expenses

Expenses	5-Year Total
<i>Faculty</i>	
Salaries	\$ 690,000
Benefits	\$ 193,200
<i>Graduate Students</i>	
TA Salaries	0
TA Benefits	0
GRA Salaries	0
GRA Benefits	0
<i>Staff & Administration</i>	
Graduate Coordinator Salary	N/A
Administrative Staff Salaries	\$ 175,895
Staff Benefits	\$ 49,250
<i>Other Expenses</i>	
Supplies and materials	10,000
Total Expenses	\$1,118,345

Revenue	5-Year Total
<i>From Student Enrollment</i>	
Formula Funding	\$1,674,750
Tuition and Fees	\$2,689,450
<i>From Institutional Funds</i>	
	0
<i>From Grant Funds</i>	
	0
<i>From Other Revenue Sources</i>	
	0
Total Revenue	\$4,364,200

Coordinating Board Criteria

The proposed program meets all applicable Coordinating Board criteria for new doctoral degree programs.

4a. U. T. Arlington: Discussion and appropriate action regarding proposed changes to admission criteria for the Doctor of Nursing Practice degree program

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and the institutional president that the U. T. System Board of Regents approve changes to the criteria for admission to the Doctor of Nursing Practice degree program at U. T. Arlington as described below.

Summary of Changes to Admission Criteria

U. T. Arlington is proposing three changes to its admissions criteria for its Doctor of Nursing Practice degree program:

1. U. T. Arlington currently admits two types of students into its Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree program: certified Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs), and master's-prepared nurses who are not certified APRNs. Currently, as a condition of admittance to its DNP degree program, U. T. Arlington requires APRN applicants to be licensed to practice in the State of Texas. The amendment being proposed is to allow licensure to practice in any U.S. state or territory. Student success in the program is not dependent on being licensed in Texas. This change will allow the university to attract non-Texas students to its program.
2. The current GPA requirement for unconditional admission to the program is 3.5 or higher. The program requests approval to consider students for admission on a conditional/probationary basis with GPAs of 3.0 to 3.49. This change will align the DNP admissions standards with that of the Ph.D. in nursing program. Additionally, several other Metroplex-area universities admit students into their DNP programs with GPAs of 3.0 or above, so this change will position U. T. Arlington to compete regionally for high-quality students. All other requirements for probationary admission will be the same as for unconditional admission.
3. Lastly, the program proposes removal of language related to the application of clinical hours completed in a master's program toward the clinical hour requirement in the DNP degree program. This information is not an admissions requirement but rather a program requirement. Therefore, this information would be eliminated from the admissions criteria and moved to the DNP Student Handbook.

Current Admission Criteria	Proposed Admission Criteria
GPA on master's course work or Post-Master's NP or Nursing Administration Certificate 3.5 on a 4.0 scale	<p>GPA on master's course work or Post-Master's NP or Nursing Administration Certificate 3.5 on a 4.0 scale.</p> <p><u>Proposed Unconditional Admission Criteria</u></p> <p><u>GPA on master's course work or Post-Master's NP or Post-Master's Nursing Administration Certificate 3.5 to 4.0 on a 4.0 scale.</u></p> <p><u>Proposed Conditional Admission Criteria:</u></p> <p><u>GPA on master's course work or Post-Master's NP or Post-Master's Nursing Administration Certificate 3.0 to 3.49 on a 4.0 scale.</u></p>
Transcripts	no change
GRE- Waived	no change
The minimum acceptable scores for the Test for English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and Test of Spoken English for Teaching Assistants and Research Assistants (TSE-A) comply with the graduate admission requirements for the University as stated in the Graduate Catalog.	no change
Students must complete a graduate level statistics course with a grade of B or higher prior to being admitted to the DNP Program. Students can apply before completing the statistics course, but cannot be admitted to the DNP Program until the course has been completed.	no change
Professional liability insurance. Evaluated by the Associate Dean.	no change
Unencumbered RN license in any U.S. State or Territory.	no change
Current license as an RN in the State of Texas.	Current license as an RN in the State of Texas.
Proficiency in use of computer for word processing, spreadsheet development, and data and text file creation and manipulation	no change

<p>APRNs: Current Board of Nursing certified Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) in Texas. Board Certified APRNs may count a maximum of 500 clinical hours achieved in their APRN master's program toward the 1000 post-bachelors practice hours. Students will need to submit a copy of active certification during admission as evidence of clinical hours.</p>	<p>APRNs: Current Board of Nursing certified Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) in Texas. Board Certified APRNs may count a maximum of 500 clinical hours achieved in their APRN master's program toward the 1000 post-bachelors practice hours. Students will need to submit a copy of active certification during admission as evidence of clinical hours.</p> <p><u>APRN applicants: Current national certification by an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) certifying board with unencumbered APRN license in any U.S. State or Territory. Students will need to submit a copy of active certification during admission as evidence of clinical hours.</u></p>
<p>Administrators: Current National certification as a Nurse Administrator preferred. Applicants must submit a completed and signed practice/clinical hour verification form with school seal verifying the number of MSN clinical/practice hours completed during the program of study. Students must submit the verification form to or obtain a certified letter on university letterhead from the MSN program at which they completed their MSN program and practice hours.</p>	<p>no change</p>
<p>Administrators: Verification letter from institution of post-baccalaureate practice hours.</p>	<p>no change</p>
<p>Current NP practice or current Nurse Administrator practice.</p>	<p>no change</p>
<p>Current CPR, ACLS, or PALS if required for their Specialty Area</p>	<p>no change</p>
<p>Immunizations required by the College of Nursing.</p>	<p>no change</p>
<p>Clear criminal background check, which satisfies the Dallas/Fort Worth Hospital Council and the Texas Board of Nursing.</p>	<p>no change</p>
<p>Negative drug screen prior to clinical and research activities in health care agencies.</p>	<p>no change</p>
<p>Practice Hours: A minimum of 1000 clinical practice hours are required for the UTA Doctor of Nursing Practice program. Up to 500 clinical/practice hours obtained during the student's MSN program may be applied to the 1000 post-bachelors practice hours.</p>	<p>no change</p>

4b. U. T. Arlington: Discussion and appropriate action regarding proposed changes to admission criteria for the Master of Science in Nursing - Nurse Practitioner degree program

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and the institutional president that the U. T. System Board of Regents approve changes to the criteria for admission to the Master of Science in Nursing - Nurse Practitioner degree program at U. T. Arlington as described below.

Summary of Changes to Admission Criteria

U. T. Arlington currently offers a Master of Science in Nursing-Nurse Practitioner program with seven different population-focused tracks: Adult-Gerontology Acute Care, Adult-Gerontology Primary Care, Family, Family-Psychiatric, Neonatal, Acute Care Pediatric, and Primary Care Pediatric. Currently, admission to any track of the Master of Science in Nursing-Nurse Practitioner program requires two years of registered nursing (RN) experience. U. T. Arlington is proposing to eliminate the requirement of two years of RN experience for the three primary care-focused tracks: Adult-Gerontology Primary Care, Family, and Primary Care Pediatric.

Many schools in Texas and nationally do not require any RN working experience as a condition for admission to their primary care nurse practitioner programs. It is widely accepted in the field that the culmination of education and clinical hours required as part of the undergraduate nursing and graduate nurse practitioner curricula are sufficient to prepare primary care nurse practitioners for practice. Texas Health Resources, a large employer in the Dallas-Fort Worth area only requires an RN license and nurse practitioner experience as a qualification of employment. Further, an analysis of historical admissions data found that the majority of applicants to the primary care-focused nurse practitioner tracks obtained their two years of RN experience in a hospital-based setting. The hospital setting does not prepare an RN to address the needs of the individuals seeking health care in a primary care setting that focuses on health promotion, disease prevention, and management of stable illness.

A review of the literature suggests that RN working experience is not a predictor of success in a graduate nursing program. Undergraduate GPA and performance in undergraduate science courses are important predictors of graduate program success, and those factors will continue to be examined in the admissions process. Therefore, the graduate nursing faculty at U. T. Arlington is proposing to eliminate the requirement of two years of RN working experience for the primary care-focused tracks of the Master of Science in Nursing-Nurse Practitioner program.

Current Unconditional Admission Criteria	Proposed Unconditional Admission Criteria
GPA on last 60 hours of Undergraduate Program (BSN) (as calculated by Graduate Admissions of UTA) 3.0	no change

GRE: Two highest GRE scores will be used in admission process-not required	no change
TSE: Score of 40 or higher or TOEFL: Minimum of 550 on paper-based test, 213 on computer-based test, or 79 on the internet-based test and achieve the following minimum scores on subtests: Writing, 22; Speaking, 21; Reading, 20; and Listening, 16 or IELTS minimum score of 7.0	no change
Two years clinical experience as a Registered Nurse (RN) is required.	Two years clinical experience as a Registered Nurse (RN) is required. <u>Two years clinical experience as a Registered Nurse (RN) is required for the following MSN tracks: Psychiatric Mental Health, Nursing Education and Nursing Administration. No RN work experience is required for the MSN tracks in Adult-Gerontology Primary Care, Family, and Primary Care Pediatric.</u>
For all high-acuity MSN NP Programs, (Acute Care Pediatrics, Neonatal and Adult Gerontology Acute Care), two years clinical experience as an RN in an acute care setting within the previous five (5) years is required. (Evaluated by the Associate Dean and/or designee.)	no change
For the MSN in Nursing Education program, 2 years clinical experience as an RN is required.	For the MSN in Nursing Education program, 2 years clinical experience as an RN is required.
International students are required to have two years RN clinical experience in a United States (or equivalent) health care system.	no change
Current and unencumbered RN License from Texas, a compact state, or other state board of nursing	no change
Neonatal Resuscitation Program (NRP). Required only for the Neonatal Nurse Practitioner Program.	no change
Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS). Required only for the Acute Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Program; Neonatal NP applicants may complete the NRP (Neonatal Resuscitation Program).	no change
BSN from ACEN or CCNE accredited program. Undergraduate level statistics, minimum grade of "C"	no change
Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation. Required of all programs.	no change

Current Probationary Admission Criteria	Proposed Probationary Admission Criteria
GPA on last 60 hours of Undergraduate Program (BSN) (as calculated by Graduate Admissions of UTA), 2.8-2.99	no change
GRE: Two highest GRE scores will be used in admission process; Verbal: 430 or 1492 or Quantitative: 430 or 141 or Analytical Writing: 3.5 Analytical: 430	no change

4c. U. T. Dallas: Discussion and appropriate action regarding proposed changes to admission criteria for Arts, Technology, and Emerging Communication master's degree program

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and the institutional president that the U. T. System Board of Regents approve changes to the criteria for admission to the Arts, Technology, and Emerging Communication master's degree program at U. T. Dallas as described below.

Summary of Changes to Admission Criteria

The School of Arts, Technology, and Emerging Communication (ATEC) at U. T. Dallas requests approval for additional admissions requirements to its Master of Arts program to be in alignment with its other graduate programs' admission criteria.

ATEC requests that applicants to its Master of Arts program submit (1) a personal statement describing research experience and interests, (2) a curriculum vitae or resume, and (3) an 8-10 page writing sample that demonstrates the best of their research experience.

Current Unconditional Admission Criteria	Proposed Unconditional Admission Criteria
Previous academic degree (B.A. or B.S., M.A. or MFA) in an appropriate field (e.g., art, computer science)	no change
A grade point average of 3.3 or higher (especially in upper-division undergraduate and graduate work)	no change
Three letters of recommendation	no change
	<u>A personal statement describing research experience and interests</u>
	<u>A curriculum vitae or resume</u>
	<u>An 8-10 page writing sample that demonstrates the best of their research experience</u>

4d. U. T. Permian Basin: Discussion and appropriate action regarding proposed changes to admission criteria for the Master of Business Administration degree program

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and the institutional president that the U. T. System Board of Regents approve changes to the criteria for admission to the Master of Business Administration degree program at U. T. Permian Basin as described below.

Summary of Changes to Admission Criteria

The U. T. Permian Basin College of Business requests approval to waive the Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) score as a requirement for admission to the Master of Business Administration (MBA) program for those applicants who have seven years of significant managerial experience. In addition, applicants would be required to submit two letters of recommendation, at least one of which is from an immediate supervisor or instructor. If accepted, students will be required to successfully complete a non-credit refresher or prep course from U. T. Permian Basin in statistics, economics, accounting, and finance before entering MBA coursework.

This policy would mirror that of several U. T. institutions. An examination of admission policies reveals that many graduate programs in business have provisions for waiving the GMAT requirement, based upon managerial experience. The refresher course is particularly beneficial for candidates who have not been in a classroom for many years and who can use practice in basic mathematical tools and fundamental business topics.

Current Unconditional Admission Criteria	Proposed Unconditional Admission Criteria
A bachelor's degree from an accredited institution in the United States or proof of equivalent training at a foreign institution	no change
A minimum GPA of 3.0 on a 4-point scale on the last 60 hours of coursework leading to the baccalaureate degree	no change

<p>A satisfactory score on the Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT)</p>	<p>A satisfactory score on the Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT).</p> <p><u>The GMAT score may be waived for those applicants who have seven years of significant managerial experience. In addition, applicants must submit two letters of recommendation, at least one of which is from an immediate supervisor or instructor. If accepted, students will be required to successfully complete a non-credit refresher or prep course from U. T. Permian Basin in statistics, economics, accounting, and finance before entering MBA coursework.</u></p>
<p>Adequate subject preparation for the proposed graduate program</p>	<p>no change</p>
<p>A favorable recommendation from the Graduate Admission Committee of the college/school/department in which the student expects to pursue graduate study, with final approval by the Dean of Graduate Studies</p>	<p>no change</p>

4e. U. T. Tyler: Discussion and appropriate action regarding proposed changes to admission criteria for the Master of Accountancy degree program

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and the institutional president that the U. T. System Board of Regents approve changes to the criteria for admission to the Master of Accountancy degree program at U. T. Tyler as described below.

Summary of Changes to Admission Criteria

The U. T. Tyler Soules College of Business requests approval to waive the Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) score as a requirement for admission to the Master of Accountancy program for those applicants who meet specified professional criteria. The graduate faculty have noted that the GMAT score of applicants is only one predictor of student academic success and should not be a barrier to student enrollment if the student has demonstrated academic achievement and potential in other ways.

An examination of admission policies at U. T. institutions reveals that most master’s programs in accountancy have provisions for waiving the GMAT based on various academic and professional criteria, including those proposed by U. T. Tyler.

Current Unconditional Admission Criteria	Proposed Unconditional Admission Criteria
A baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution	no change
A recommended grade point average of upper-division accounting hours or on the last 60 undergraduate hours equal to or greater than 3.0 on a 4.0 scale	no change
A recommended score of 500 on the Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT).	<p>A recommended score of 500 on the Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT).</p> <p><u>The GMAT may be waived for applicants meeting one of the following criteria:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. <u>Holds a Certified Public Accountant (CPA), Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA), or Certified Management Accountant (CMA) license (or official documentation that all parts of the specific exam have been passed) and submits a personal statement; or</u> b. <u>Holds a business, law, or economics graduate degree from an accredited academic institution and submits a personal statement</u>

5. U. T. Permian Basin: Discussion and appropriate action regarding proposed revisions to the Mission Statement

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and the institutional president that the U. T. System Board of Regents approve proposed revisions to the Mission Statement for U. T. Permian Basin, as set forth below.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Each public institution of higher education is required to have a mission statement under *Texas Education Code* Section 51.359. Section 51.352 of the Code, regarding the Responsibility of Governing Boards, requires governing boards to insist on clarity of focus and mission of each institution under its governance. Regents' *Rules and Regulations*, Rule 10402 states that the Academic Affairs Committee or the Health Affairs Committee, as appropriate, must review proposed changes to institutional mission statements.

Approval of this item will also help to ensure compliance with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) requirements regarding the periodic review and approval of each institution's mission statement by its governing board.

The U. T. Permian Basin Mission Statement was last approved on February 12, 2015.

Current Mission Statement

The University of Texas Permian Basin is a general academic university of The University of Texas System. The University of Texas System is committed to pursue high-quality educational opportunities for the enhancement of the human resources of Texas, the nation, and the world through intellectual and personal growth. The mission of The University of Texas Permian Basin is to provide quality education to all qualified students in a supportive in-person and online educational environment; to promote excellence in teaching, research, and service; and to serve as a resource for the intellectual, social, economic, technological advancement, and healthcare of the diverse constituency in Texas and the region.

Proposed Mission Statement

As a regional, comprehensive institution, The University of Texas Permian Basin serves a diverse community of students from the region, the state, and beyond. Through excellence in student-centered teaching, learning, research, and public service, the University cultivates engaged citizens and impacts lives while advancing technology and the public interests of West Texas.

6. U. T. Austin: Appropriation of \$7.5 million of Permanent University Funds for a third module of the Joint Library Facility (JLF) in College Station, Texas

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, the Executive Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs, and the institutional president that the U. T. System Board of Regents approve the appropriation of \$7.5 million of Permanent University Funds (PUF) to U. T. Austin for construction of a third module of the Joint Library Facility (JLF) in College Station, Texas.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The U. T. System libraries and The Texas A&M University System libraries maintain a shared library storage facility on the Texas A&M University RELLIS Campus in College Station, which was approved by the U. T. System Board of Regents on August 12, 2010.

The Joint Library Facility (JLF) is a shared library storage facility for the libraries from both Systems. An analysis of data from one year ago showed that JLF has saved 24.25 miles of book shelves. For a sense of the scale, if the books stored there were placed side by side (as if on a shelf), the volumes would wrap around the U. T. Austin campus nine times. The JLF saves the U. T. System and Texas A&M libraries over \$5,000,000 each year.

The first JLF module opened in 2013 and was funded on an approximate 50/50 basis by the U. T. and Texas A&M Systems. The second module, enabling the storage of an additional 1,000,000 volumes, was completed in 2017 and was funded entirely by the Texas A&M University System. JLF was built and designed in such a way that it can support a total of three modules and has the capacity for another 1,000,000 volumes. The U. T. and Texas A&M Systems now support construction of the third and final module at JLF, to be funded entirely by U. T. Austin and with a completion date of January 2021.

The value of JLF is much richer than a simple model of cost-effective, high-density storage because JLF is based on a “resource in common” (RIC) model. Under RIC, if a library identifies a volume for deposit in JLF and discovers it is already in the JLF collection, the library does not deposit a second copy, but instead claims the deposited volume as a “resource in common.” By formal agreement and policy, that JLF volume is now a mutually owned volume and the second copy may be withdrawn and moved as appropriate. RIC volumes may be owned by as many libraries that claim them, so the savings are cumulative. A volume designated as RIC is permanent. The volume cannot be removed without the agreement of all libraries that claim ownership.