

APPENDIX H

Request for Authorization to Establish a Master of Art and Design at North Carolina State University

Introduction

North Carolina State University notified the Office of the President of its intent to plan a Master of Art and Design degree program (CIP 50.0401) on April 23, 2003. The University requests authorization to establish the degree program in January 2004.

Program Description

The proposed degree will be a 48-hour, two-year studio research based program blending art, design, and both hand and digital technologies to prepare professional artists and designers to work as studio professionals or in the traditional or emerging design-related industries in the state. The degree will initially provide one concentration in Fibers and Surface Design that will serve practicing artists, production craftspeople, and industrial textile designers seeking further artistic skills. A second concentration in Digital Animation and Imaging is being planned. The program links art and design to the University's strengths in technology and design. It will serve both the traditional textile and technological industries of the state and will contribute to the transformation of the state's textile industry.

Program Need

In recent years there has been an increased focus on computer technologies that allow textile designs and textiles to be created with increasing sophistication and ease. Many companies in the state need graduates who are skilled in both art and computer technologies. The program will enable more traditional weaving and surface design methodology to synthesize with recently developed computer graphic and loom control technologies. It will build on the success of the Anni Albers Scholars Program (dual undergraduate degrees in Art & Design and Textile Technology). The Master's in Industrial Design degree program has had a Fibers concentration for many years although the students have actually taken most of their coursework from faculty in the Art and Design Department. Establishment of this degree will enable these students to obtain their master's degree from the appropriate department. It is anticipated that 24 full-time students will be enrolled in the program by the fourth year.

Resources

New funding will come from enrollment increase funds and internal reallocations; no other state funds are requested.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Governors approve the request to establish a Master of Art and Design degree at North Carolina State University effective January 2004.