

## **Request for Authorization to Establish a Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science at UNC Wilmington**

UNC Wilmington requests authorization to establish a Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science degree (CIP 31.0505).

### **Program Description**

The exercise science program is currently a concentration within the BA in Physical Education and Health, thus the transcript of students in this concentration classifies them with physical education majors who teach in K-12 grades. UNCW requests that this concentration be separated into its own major. Exercise science professionals are skilled in evaluating health behaviors, identifying risk factors, conducting fitness assessments, and detailing appropriate exercise prescriptions for a wide variety of populations ranging from healthy individuals to groups with special health conditions and needs. It is this array of knowledge, skills, actions, and locations of practice that distinguish exercise science students from the broad and generic classification of physical education.

### **UNC Tomorrow Relevance**

This degree program addresses several recommendations in the UNC Tomorrow Final Report including 4.4 Our Communities and Their Economic Transformation, 4.5 Our Health, and 4.7 Our University's Outreach and Engagement.

### **Highlights from UNC-GA Data Template**

Monthly Labor Review job projections indicate there will be a 44 percent increase in the number of job openings in the exercise science and allied health-related fields during the decade ending in 2012. The fitness industry has been defined as the 11<sup>th</sup> fastest growing area of employment in the United States by the Monthly Labor Review. In the last three years, UNCW has established two baccalaureate, four master's, and one doctoral program, and has discontinued five baccalaureate and two master's programs.

### **Outcome of Consultation with Disciplinary Panel**

Faculty from ECU and UNC-Chapel Hill participated in the panel discussion with UNCW and UNC-GA representatives. Topics discussed included electives for the major; distinguishing the degree from other areas such as athletic training and recreation therapy; faculty needs; and location of the major in the academic organization. Panel participants were supportive of the proposed degree.

### **Student Demand**

The exercise science concentration is a very popular focus for current UNCW students majoring in Physical Education, and a 2.5 GPA requirement has been implemented in the

concentration to keep the student numbers manageable. The program projects that full enrollment of the program in its fourth year will be 125 full-time students. Assuming that 70 percent of the enrollments would be students already enrolled at UNCW and 30 percent would be new students coming specifically for this major, this would mean 38 new students at UNCW.

### **Opportunities for Graduates of the Program**

Typical work environments include, but are not limited to, commercial fitness centers, government and law enforcement academies, corporate fitness and wellness programs, hospitals and clinics dealing with rehabilitation, senior citizen centers, and university athletics and health centers.

### **Resource Implications**

**Resource needs:** All program classes are in place, and sufficient classroom, gymnasium, and natatorium spaces have been allocated

**Resources allocated:** Four full-time faculty members are in place.

**Estimated cost to the State:** Based on the University funding formula, when the program reaches full enrollment, UNCW would receive additional State appropriations of approximately \$291,359 if fully funded by the General Assembly.

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Board of Governors approve UNCW's request to establish a Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science degree (CIP 31.0505) subject to the availability of funding.

## General Information Template for Academic Program Review

### ***Degree Area and Level:***

B.S. in Exercise Science (CIP 31.0505) at UNC Wilmington

### ***Addressing UNC Tomorrow:***

This degree program addresses all of the major findings in the UNC Tomorrow Report under Recommendation 4.5 Our Health.

### ***Role of Program in Relation to State and Regional Needs:***

According to the proposal, “The need for the exercise science degree is evident, not only by student interest and growth, but also by employment projections drawn from the Monthly Labor Review (November, 2007) indicating that there will be an increase in the number of job openings within the exercise science and allied health-related fields from 485,000 in 2002 to 628,000 in 2012, representing a 44% increase. In addition, the fitness industry has been defined as the 11<sup>th</sup> fastest growing area of employment in the United State for 2002 through 2012 (Month Labor Review, 2004).

### ***US Labor Department Analysis:***

- *Summary* – No narrative or data provided for this cluster.

### ***Availability of Program Statewide (Enrollment and Degrees Awarded in Last 3 Years):***

- *Public universities*

Enrollment			Academic Year						
			Fall 06	Spr 07	Fall 07	Spr 08	Fall 08	Spr 09	Fall 09
ASU	Exercise Science	BS	112	113	125	141	172	207	253
ECU	Exercise and Sport Science	BA	19	16	10	13	8	6	7
UNCC	Exercise Science	BS	124	79	170	193	189	221	221
UNC-CH	Exercise and Sport Science	BA	413	389	404	369	407	380	445
UNCG	Exercise and Sport Science	BS	213	242	256	266	242	275	264
UNCP	Exercise and Sport Science	BS	66	79	58	77	81	100	95
WSSU	Exercise Science	BS	77	90	86	101	103	109	116

Number of Degrees Awarded			Academic Year		
			2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009
ASU	Exercise Science	BS	44	37	43
ECU	Exercise and Sport Science	BA	9	13	6
UNCC	Exercise Science	BS	30	30	52
UNC-CH	Exercise and Sport Science	BA	172	171	187
UNCG	Exercise and Sport Science	BS	74	84	101
UNCP	Exercise and Sport Science	BS	38	32	47
WSSU	Exercise Science	BS	23	29	32

## Appendix L

- *Private universities* – Source: Occupational Supply Demand System

Number of Degrees Awarded		Academic Year		
		2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008
Brevard College	Exercise Science	5	8	6
Campbell University	Exercise Science	0	9	5
Guilford College	Exercise and Sports Science	3	2	7
High Point University	Exercise Science	14	9	18
Lenoir-Rhyne University	Health and Exercise Science	11	0	0
Meredith College	Exercise and Sports Science	5	2	2
Methodist University	Exercise Science	0	0	3
North Carolina Wesleyan College	Exercise Science	7	8	13
Pfeiffer University	Exercise Science	7	7	7
Wake Forest University	Health and Exercise Science	55	52	54

***Available in Online or Distance Format from UNC institutions:***

Not available.

***Available or not from Academic Common Market:***

North Carolina does not participate in the ACM at the undergraduate level.

***UNCW Campus enrollment and degrees awarded in similar programs at the Bachelors level:***

*(Based on two CIP digits – 31 CIP is the summary group for Parks, Recreation, Leisure and Fitness Studies under which Exercise Science is a program)*

Enrollment			Academic Year						
			Fall 06	Spr 07	Fall 07	Spr 08	Fall 08	Spr 09	Fall 09
UNC-W	Parks, Recreation and Leisure Facilities Management	BA	56	63	65	77	78	77	90
	Health and Physical Education, General	BA	43	65	51	66	52	61	49

Number of Degrees Awarded			Academic Year		
			2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009
UNC-W	Parks, Recreation and Leisure Facilities Management	BA	25	31	37
	Health and Physical Education, General	BA	60	73	48

***Campus Average of enrollment and degrees awarded in this degree area at the Bachelors level:***  
*(Based on two CIP digits – 31 CIP is the summary group for Parks, Recreation, Leisure and Fitness Studies under which Exercise Science is a program - over the last 3 Academic Years, Fall 2006-Fall 2009)*

<b>Campus Average</b>			
	Number of Active Programs	Enrollment per Semester	Degrees Awarded per Year
ASU	2	148	51
ECU	2	117	58
NCA&T	3	53	14
NCCU	2	69	15
NCSU	2	178	82
UNCC	1	171	37
UNC-CH	2	201	89
UNCG	2	170	61
UNCP	2	50	23
UNCW	2	64	46
WCU	2	50	26
WSSU	3	49	22
Campus Average:		110	44

***UNC Wilmington Campus Degree Programs added in the past three years:***

- *Bachelor*
  - BS Community Health Education (06/13/2008)
  - BS Oceanography (02/12/2010)
- *Master*
  - MA Environmental Studies (01/11/2008)
  - MA Spanish (01/11/2008)
  - MS Applied Gerontology (06/08/07)
  - MA Criminology and Public Sociology (03/16/2007)
- *Doctoral*
  - EdD Educational Leadership and Administration (05/11/2007)

***UNC Wilmington Degree Programs discontinued in past three years:***

- *Bachelor*
  - BA Special Education, Cross-Categorical (03/20/2009)
  - BA Special Education, Behaviorally/Emotionally Handicapped (03/20/2009)
  - BA Special Education, Mental Retardation (03/20/2009)
  - BA Special Education, Learning Disabilities (03/20/2009)
  - BA History, Teacher Licensure (03/20/2009)
- *Master*
  - MA Mathematics (03/20/2009)
  - MEd Special Education (02/12/2010)
- *Doctoral*
  - N/A