

## **Request for Authorization to Establish a Bachelor of Science in Professional Studies at Fayetteville State University**

Fayetteville State University requests authorization to establish a B.S. in Professional Studies degree program (CIP 24.0101).

### **Program Description**

The proposed Bachelor of Science in Professional Studies (B.S.P.S) is an interdisciplinary degree program enabling students to develop 21st century skills (such as critical thinking and knowledge of global cultures) that will prepare them for professional success in the global economy. At the same time, the program provides students the opportunity to develop an individualized program of specialized knowledge and skills consistent with their personal interests, professional goals, and previous experience. The 123-hour B.S.P.S. is designed to provide a pathway for degree completion for various groups of students who have previously earned a significant amount of college credit, such as adult learners and military personnel. One distinctive feature of the program is that all students will develop a set of professional skills by completing courses in logic, ethics, statistics, two courses in global cultures, and a capstone course in leadership and communication. The curriculum is comprised of general education (45 hours), the professional core courses mentioned above (21 hours), an advisor- and faculty committee-approved major concentration (42 hours), and 15 hours of upper division electives. The B.S.P.S. will enhance FSU's service to military personnel and their dependents, many of whom seek to attend an institution in close proximity to Fort Bragg.

### **Relevance to Institutional Mission and Strategic Plan**

Fayetteville State University, as a public comprehensive regional university, promotes the educational, social, cultural, and economic transformation of southeastern North Carolina and beyond. The B.S. in Professional Studies program, with its combination of technical and specialized courses, along with the core professional courses and general education component, will serve the region by preparing graduates for success in a variety of professions and work environments.

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

Nine UNC campuses currently offer a baccalaureate degree in Interdisciplinary or Liberal Studies; the total enrollment in these nine programs has increased by more than 25% in the past three years, Fall 2007 – Fall 2010. Fayetteville State University has established two new baccalaureate programs in the past three years, and has discontinued two Masters and five baccalaureate programs.

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

The panel included faculty members from ASU, ECU, and UNCG in addition to the FSU faculty presenters. Discussion was held on the overall curriculum of the program and how the program will be administered. There was consensus on the desirability of offering the B.S. in Professional Studies at Fayetteville State University.

### **Student Demand**

An online survey about this program was conducted in the spring semester 2010. Students and faculty at Fayetteville State University and Fayetteville Technical Community College were invited to participate. The survey yielded 147 respondents, of whom 128 (87%) identified themselves as students. In response to the question, “Will you consider enrolling in this program, advising others to enroll in this program, or hiring a graduate from this program?” 111 of 145 (77%) responded “yes.” In response to the question, “Will this program provide a useful pathway to a four-year degree for students who may not otherwise have such an opportunity?” 133 of 146 (92%) responded “yes.” FSU projects full enrollment of the program in its fourth year will be twenty full-time and forty part-time students.

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

One of the greatest needs in North Carolina is to increase the number of adults who hold a baccalaureate degree. The Lumina Foundation has quoted a recent analysis of occupation data and workforce trends in North Carolina by the Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce, which shows that by 2018, 59% of North Carolina’s jobs will require postsecondary education. One strategy for developing the college-educated workforce essential for the state’s future prosperity, the Lumina Foundation suggests, is to help adult learners with some college credit to earn a degree. The B.S.P.S. provides a useful pathway to a degree for these students. Further, increasing the number of college graduates is especially important for FSU’s service region. In Cumberland and surrounding counties, the percentage of adults with a higher education degree ranges from 19% to 33%, which is lower than the percentage for the state (37%) and the nation (38%).

### **Resource Implications**

**Resource needs:** Because the proposed program is based on existing course offerings, no additional faculty positions, courses, library resources, equipment, or physical facilities are needed to implement this new program.

**Resources allocated:** A faculty coordinator for the program (50% release time) will be provided by reallocation of existing resources. The University College will absorb support and administrative responsibilities for the program.

**Estimated cost to the State:** Based on the University funding formula, in the fourth year, Fayetteville State University would generate additional state appropriations of approximately \$76,000 if fully funded by the General Assembly.

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Board of Governors approve Fayetteville State University’s request to establish a B.S. in Professional Studies degree program (CIP 24.0101).

## General Information Template for Academic Program Review

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

B.S. in Professional Studies (CIP 24.0101) at Fayetteville State University

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

This proposed program would address several Recommendations within the UNC Tomorrow Report including the components to enhance Our Global Readiness (Recommendation 4.1), Our Citizens and Their Future: Access to Higher Education (Recommendation 4.2), and Our Communities and Their Economic Transformation (Recommendation 4.4).

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

According to the proposal, “One of the greatest needs in North Carolina is to increase the number of adults who hold a baccalaureate degree. The Lumina Foundation quotes a recent analysis of occupation data and workforce trends in North Carolina by the Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce, which shows that by 2018, 59 percent of North Carolina’s jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018. One strategy for developing the college-educated workforce essential for the state’s future prosperity, the Lumina Foundation suggests, is to help adult learners with some college credit to earn a degree. The B.S.P.S. provides a useful pathway to a degree for these students. If increasing the number of college graduates is important for North Carolina as a whole, it is especially so for FSU’s service region. In Cumberland and surrounding counties, the percentage of adults with a higher education degree ranges from 19% to 33%, which is lower than the percentage for the state (37%) and the nation (38%).”

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

– Summary – N/A

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

- *Public universities* - A number of UNC campuses offer undergraduate degree programs in Interdisciplinary Studies, Multidisciplinary Studies, Liberal Studies, or Special Studies with the same CIP code as the proposed program. Exception is WSSU program that has CIP code of 24.0102.

Upper Division Enrollment			Academic Year						
			Fall 07	Spr 08	Fall 08	Spr 09	Fall 09	Spr 10	Fall 10
ASU	Interdisciplinary Studies	BA	75	71	68	40	28	21	21
ECU	Multidisciplinary Studies	BA & BS	25	21	18	16	21	30	25
NCA&T	Liberal Studies	BA	121	133	170	174	160	160	165
NCSU	Interdisciplinary Studies	BA & BS	10	13	14	12	11	10	11
UNCA	Interdisciplinary Studies	BA	11	13	27	32	35	37	37
UNC-CH	Interdisciplinary Studies	BA	8	10	9	9	6	7	5
UNCG	Special Programs in Liberal Studies	BA	192	264	290	153	345	349	325
WCU	Special Studies	BA & BS	0	0	0	1	1	2	2
WSSU	Interdisciplinary Studies	BA	128	138	147	147	135	136	136

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Number of Degrees Awarded			Academic Year		
			2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010
ASU	Interdisciplinary Studies	BA	29	17	21
ECU	Multidisciplinary Studies	BA & BS	10	18	12
NCA&T	Liberal Studies	BA	50	91	82
NCSU	Interdisciplinary Studies	BA & BS	15	7	9
UNCA	Interdisciplinary Studies	BA	7	9	15
UNC-CH	Interdisciplinary Studies	BA	2	8	3
UNCG	Special Programs in Liberal Studies	BA	47	62	72
WCU	Special Studies	BA & BS	0	1	3
WSSU	Interdisciplinary Studies	BA	56	54	82

## - Private universities

Belmont Abbey College	BA Liberal Studies
Bennett College	BA and BS Interdisciplinary Studies
Brevard College	BA Interdisciplinary Studies
Chowan University	BA and BS Interdisciplinary Studies
Davidson College	BA and BS Interdisciplinary Studies
Duke University	BA and BS Interdisciplinary Studies
Greensboro College	BA and BS Liberal Studies
Guilford College	BA Interdisciplinary Studies
High Point University	BA Individualized Major
Johnson C. Smith University	BA Interdisciplinary Studies
Lees-McRae College	BA and BS Interdisciplinary Studies
Lenoir-Rhyne University	BA Liberal Studies
Peace College	BA Liberal Studies
Pfeiffer University	BA Interdisciplinary Studies
Saint Augustines College	BS Liberal Studies
Salem College	BA Integrative Studies
Shaw University	BA Liberal Studies
St. Andrews Presbyterian College	BA Interdisciplinary Studies
Warren Wilson College	BA Integrative Studies
Wingate College	Bachelor of Liberal Studies

Source: National Center for Education Statistics - <http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/>

**Available in Online or Distance Format from UNC institutions:** WSSU offers the Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies (CIP 24.0102) through UNC Online. UNCG offers the BA in Liberal Studies (CIP 24.0101) through UNC Online.

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**Available from Academic Common Market:** North Carolina does not participate in the ACM at the undergraduate level.

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

*(Based on two CIP digits – 24 CIP is the summary group for Liberal Arts and Sciences, General Studies and Humanities under which Professional Studies is listed as a program.)*

FSU does not offer any undergraduate degrees in the 24 CIP.

***Campus Average of enrollment and degrees awarded per degree program in this area at the Bachelors level over the last 3 Academic Years, Fall 2007-Fall 2010:***

*(Based on two CIP digits – 24 CIP is the summary group for Liberal Arts and Sciences, General Studies and Humanities under which Professional Studies is listed as a program.)*

<b>Campus Average</b>			
	Number of Active Programs	Upper Division Enrollment per Semester	Degrees Awarded per Year
ASU	1	46	22
ECU	1	22	13
NCA&T	1	155	74
NCSU	2	20	7
UNCA	1	27	10
UNC-CH	1	8	4
UNCG	1	274	60
WCU	1	2	1
WSSU	1	138	64
Campus Average:		77	28

***FSU Campus Degree Programs added in the past three years:***

- *Bachelor*
  - BA Intelligence Studies (11/13/2009)
  - BSW Social Work (08/13/2010)
- *Master*
  - N/A
- *Doctoral*
  - N/A

***FSU Campus Degree Programs discontinued in the past three years:***

- *Bachelor*
  - BS Business Education, Secondary (03/20/2009)
  - BA Health Education K-12 (03/20/2009)
  - BS Marketing Education for Teachers (03/20/2009)
  - BS Social Sciences, Secondary Education (02/11/2011)
  - BS Spanish Education K-12 (02/11/2011)
- *Master*
  - MA English (02/11/2011)
  - MA Political Science (02/11/2011)
- *Doctoral*
  - N/A