

## **Request for Authorization to Establish a Master of Science in Clinical Research and Product Development at UNC Wilmington**

UNC Wilmington requests authorization to establish a Master of Science in Clinical Research and Product Development (CIP 51.9999).

### **Program Description**

The proposed professional science master's program will have two concentrations: Clinical Research Management, and Regulatory Affairs and Compliance. The degree offers students the opportunity to gain advanced expertise in clinical research with human subjects beyond what is currently offered in the BS in Clinical Research offered by UNCW. Courses proposed for the program align with recommendations of a National Institutes of Health workshop on Defining Core Competencies in Clinical and Translational Science.

### **UNC Tomorrow Relevance**

The program responds to the UNC Tomorrow major finding (4.5, Our Health) that UNC should lead in improving the health and wellness of all people and communities in our state, including educating more health professionals.

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

The demand for new drug, biologic, and device discoveries has increased substantially over the past fifteen years due to the advent of the Human Genome project, the growth of biotechnology companies, and the aging baby boom population needing new pharmaceutical products. In the past three years, UNCW has added one baccalaureate, four master's, and one doctoral program and has discontinued five baccalaureate and one master's programs.

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

In addition to the UNC-Chapel Hill and UNC-GA participants, faculty members from East Carolina, UNC-Chapel Hill, UNC Greensboro, and Winston-Salem State participated in the discussion. There was general agreement that the degree program was appropriate and well planned, although there were questions about the original title of the program, Biopharmaceutical Clinical Research. Panel members thought this could be misleading without certain pharmaceutical program content so UNCW amended the proposed name of the program to Clinical Research and Product Development. UNC-Chapel Hill participants noted that UNC-CH has started an M.S. in Clinical Research in the past year, although they supported the UNCW proposal.

### **Student Demand**

Based on surveys of industry professionals and student interest from majors in the BS in Clinical Research program, UNCW estimates that 20 full-time and 25 part-time students will be enrolled by the program's fourth year.

**Opportunities for Graduates of the Program**

Significant growth is anticipated in the Wilmington area of clinical contract research organizations in addition to the ongoing growth of such operations in the Research Triangle area. Wilmington has experienced economic growth in recent years through the establishment and expansion of biopharmaceutical companies and contract research organizations such as PPD, Inc., AAI Pharma, Inc., INC Research, Inc., and Quintiles, Inc. Additionally, the North Carolina Biotechnology Center opened a regional office in Wilmington in October 2005 further supporting the growth of biopharmaceutical industry in the area.

**Resource Implications**

**Resource needs:** The program will need one additional full-time faculty person in the first year and a total of 3 new faculty members when the program is fully enrolled.

**Resources allocated:** The program will occupy space in a new School of Nursing building. The program will build on the existing successful BS in Clinical Research program.

**Estimated cost to the State:** By the fourth year of the program (steady state), 585 student credit hours (Master's, cost category level 3) would result in state appropriation of \$463,921.

**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Board of Governors approve UNC Wilmington's request for authorization to establish a Master of Science degree in Clinical Research and Product Development (CIP 51.9999) contingent upon the availability of funding.

## General Information Template for Academic Program Review

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

M.S. in Clinical Research and Product Development (CIP 51.9999) at UNC Wilmington.

### ***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 Communities and Their Economic Transformation (Recommendation 4.4), and Our Health (Recommendation 4.5).

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

According to the program proposal, "The demand for new drug, biologic, and device discoveries has increased substantially over the past fifteen years due to the advent of the Human Genome project, the growth of biotechnology companies, and the aging baby boom population needing new pharmaceutical products. In addition to Research Triangle Park, N.C., Wilmington, N.C. has experienced economic growth in recent years through the establishment and expansion of biopharmaceutical companies and contract research organizations such as PPD, Inc., AAI Pharma, Inc., INC Research, Inc., and Quintiles, Inc. Additionally, the North Carolina Biotechnology Center opened a regional office in Wilmington in October 2005 further supporting the growth of biopharmaceutical industry in the area."

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

- *Summary* – Based on the CIP code, the Occupational Supply Demand System puts this degree program in a broad category of Miscellaneous Medical and Health Programs. No narrative is provided for this cluster.

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

- *Public universities* – Not available.
- *Private universities* – Not available.

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

Not available.

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

Not available.

### ***UNC Wilmington Campus enrollment and degrees awarded in similar programs at the Masters level: (Based on two CIP digits – 51 CIP for Health Professions and Related Clinical Sciences)***

Enrollment			Academic Year						
			Fall 05	Spr 06	Fall 06	Spr 07	Fall 07	Spr 08	Fall 08
UNC-W	Family Practice Nurse/Nurse Practitioner	MSN	14	13	20	22	43	37	52

# APPENDIX Z

Number of Degrees Awarded			Academic Year		
			2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008
UNC-W	Family Practice Nurse/Nurse Practitioner	MSN	9	2	8

***System Average of enrollment and degrees awarded in this degree area at the Masters level:***  
*(Based on two CIP digits – 51 CIP for Health Professions and Related Clinical Sciences - over the last 3 Academic Years, Fall 2005-Fall 2008)*

System Average		
	Enrollment per Semester	Degrees Awarded per Year
ASU	24	15
ECU	60	21
NCCU	77	28
NCSU	12	7
UNC-C	69	25
UNC-CH	67	35
UNC-G	102	35
UNC-W	29	6
WCU	55	17
WSSU	46	16
System Average	54	21

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

- *Bachelor*
  - BS Community Health Education (06/13/2008)
- *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)
- *Doctoral*
  - N/A