

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.

Request for Authorization to Establish a Master of Microbial Biotechnology at North Carolina State University

Introduction

North Carolina State University notified the Office of the President of its intent to plan a Master of Microbial Biotechnology degree program (CIP 26.1201) on April 23, 2003. The University requests authorization to establish the degree program in January 2004.

Program Description

The proposed master's degree in Microbial Biotechnology is an interdisciplinary program developed by the Department of Microbiology, the Biotechnology Program, and the College of Management. It is anticipated that graduates of this program will become highly valued technical managers in biotechnology companies in North Carolina and the Southeast. The proposed program will provide students with training in three areas directly relevant to the biotechnology industry, including the theoretical basis for the role of microorganisms as the workhorses of biotechnology; intensive laboratory training in the molecular techniques involved in microbial biotechnology; and a comprehensive introduction to the management of money, people, processes, and information. The program will be built upon a large number of existing courses from divergent disciplines in a structured format aimed at generating "industry ready" graduates.

Program Need

The proposed program builds on the University's existing strengths in biotechnology and combines this with the skills necessary for graduates to operate and succeed in a commercial rather than academic or research environment. The program provides the opportunity for NC State to train the managerial mainstays of this industry and to make a much-needed contribution to the workforce of the most rapidly growing technology sector of the state's economy. Estimates by the NC Biotechnology Center indicate the expected growth of the industry in North Carolina over the next decade will require between 2,000 and 3,000 new employees per year. Approximately 10 percent of these positions will require graduates with MS degrees. Students will be drawn from various biotechnology-related undergraduate programs at NC State and other universities and from current employees in the biotechnology industry who are seeking career advancement. It is anticipated that 20 full-time students will be enrolled by the fourth year of the program.

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 Microbial Biotechnology degree at North Carolina State University effective January 2004.

Request for Authorization to Establish a Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing at North Carolina State University

Introduction

North Carolina State University notified the Office of the President of its intent to plan a Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing degree program (CIP 23.0501) on April 23, 2003. The University requests authorization to establish the degree program in January 2004.

Program Description

The proposed degree program will be a two-year studio/research program requiring a balance of writing workshops and literary scholarship. The program will rely on English Department faculty for most of the literature course offerings, and writers on the program faculty will offer form, craft, and theory courses, workshops, and thesis direction. The MFA in Creative Writing is designed to train students for a career as writers of imaginative literature, and it is increasingly becoming the requisite degree for people intending to teach creative writing in colleges and universities. The objective of the degree is to produce polished writers of fiction, poetry, creative non-fiction, and drama. Graduates will have produced a publishable book-length creative work for their thesis. Elective courses from within or outside of the Department of English will offer students the opportunity to pursue an area of interest such as linguistics and translation, historical fiction, etc. The Department currently has a creative writing concentration within its MA degree program, which will be developed into the proposed MFA program.

Program Need

There is a continuing interest in creative writing in the Research Triangle area, and none of the local universities offers a fine arts master's degree to meet that demand. The Department of English receives frequent inquiries about the availability of such a program. There are increasing enrollments in fine arts programs in writing nationwide, and MFA programs are becoming the most common way for students to study with accomplished published writers. An active MFA program becomes a focal point for public engagement with literature and the fine arts. Through public readings, discussions, festivals, and meetings of writers and teachers, it broadens the cultural life of the community and state. It is anticipated that 24 full-time and 6 part-time students will be enrolled by the fourth year of the program.

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 Fine Arts in Creative Writing degree at North Carolina State University effective January 2004.

Request for Authorization to Establish a Master of Science in Rehabilitation Counseling at Winston-Salem State University

Introduction

Winston-Salem State University notified the Office of the President of its intent to plan a Master of Science in Rehabilitation Counseling degree program (CIP 51.2310) in Spring 2003. WSSU requests authorization to establish the degree in January 2004.

Program Description

Rehabilitation Counseling is a process that assists individuals who are disabled to become productive citizens in the areas of vocation and independent living. Rehabilitation counselors serve a multifaceted role that includes vocational services, case management, job development, and placement counseling. The curriculum of study for this program is based on guidelines from the Council on Rehabilitation Education (CORE), the accrediting body for graduate level rehabilitation counseling programs. The proposed degree program will enable students to take the Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC) examination by providing a curriculum that will allow the students to acquire knowledge and skills necessary for facilitating effective services to individuals with disabilities. In addition to targeting employees of state Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) agencies, strategies will be developed to recruit non-traditional students who are disabled and who are from minority groups.

Program Need

The North Carolina Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Service (NCDVRS) employs approximately 400 rehabilitation counselors. Of these, 105 still must obtain a master's degree in Rehabilitation Counseling in order to meet the Comprehensive System of Personnel Development (CSPD) requirement by 2009. During 2002, NCDVRS had 95 vacancies in rehabilitation counseling positions, with a turnover rate of 25 percent. The need for professionally trained individuals in Rehabilitation Counseling from culturally diverse backgrounds is acute and growing. Recent statistics indicate that race appears to be a major factor in incidence of disability. Section 21 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1998 described a need for recruitment and preparation of minority rehabilitation counselors to combat one of these areas. In addition, the 1998 Amendments to the Rehabilitation Act require that state rehabilitation counselors have a master's degree.

Resources

WSSU has been awarded a five year Long-Term Training Grant from the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services of the U.S. Department of Education for \$750,000 to be used to develop and implement the proposed degree program. No additional resources are requested.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Governors approve the request to establish a Master of Science degree in Rehabilitation Counseling at Winston-Salem State University effective January 2004.