

5. UNC Degree Program Proposals Courtney Thornton

Situation: North Carolina Central University requests authorization to establish a new degree program.

Background: In 2011-2012, North Carolina Central University completed a comprehensive program review resulting in the discontinuation of bachelor's degree programs in Geography and Environmental Science. The Board of Governors approved those discontinuations in June 2012 with the understanding that the content of the two discontinued programs would be combined into one new degree program and brought to the Board for establishment at a later time. Hence, this resulting new program requires no new resources.

Assessment: Establishment of the programs is recommended.

Action: This item requires a vote.

**Request for Authorization to Establish the
Bachelor of Science in Environmental and Geographic Sciences at
North Carolina Central University**

North Carolina Central University requests authorization to establish a Bachelor of Science (B.S) in Environmental and Geographic Sciences degree program (CIP 03.0104).

In June 2012, the Board of Governors approved discontinuation of North Carolina Central University's B.S. programs in Environmental Science and Geography with the understanding that programmatic elements would be combined into a single bachelor's program. The proposed B.S. in Environmental and Geographic Sciences is the resulting new program. The 124-hour program will prepare graduates for municipal service, graduate study, and other careers that require the capacity to analyze environmental systems and human-environment interactions. In addition to general education requirements, students will complete a program core focused on interdisciplinary skills required of modern environmental scientists, such as geographic information systems (GIS), environmental sustainability, and statistics. Students will enter one of three concentration areas: Geoscience, Environmental Science, or Environmental Health Science. The Environmental Health Science concentration is retained from the previous Environmental Science degree and is accredited by the National Environmental Health Science and Protection Accreditation Council.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Board of Governors approve North Carolina Central University's request to establish a Bachelor of Science in Environmental and Geographic Sciences degree program (CIP 03.0104) to enroll students beginning August 2015.