

AGENDA ITEM

May 26, 2016

7. UNC Degree Program Discontinuations.....Courtney Thornton

Situation: UNC-Chapel Hill requests discontinuation of the following programs:

- MA in Comparative Literature (CIP 16.0104)
- PhD in Comparative Literature (CIP 16.0104)

UNC Charlotte and Western Carolina University request discontinuation of:

- Joint BSEE in Electrical Engineering (CIP 14.1001)

Background: Per UNC 400.1, the campuses and UNC General Administration review degree program offerings and bring periodic discontinuation recommendations to the UNC Board of Governors.

Assessment: Discontinuation of the above-listed programs is recommended.

Action: This item requires a vote by the Committee, with full Board vote through the consent agenda.

**Requests for Authorization to Discontinue
Academic Degree Programs**

UNC-Chapel Hill

MA in Comparative Literature (CIP 16.0104)

PhD in Comparative Literature (CIP 16.0104)

UNC-Chapel Hill's English and Comparative Literature departments merged several years ago and in 2013-2014 underwent a departmental self-study and external review. One outcome of the review process was a recommendation to combine the separate graduate offerings of the two departments into single MA and PhD programs. A single MA and PhD program will result in a more cohesive and coherent graduate student culture in the department, including consistent policies, tracking, and student financial support and teaching opportunities. Course and exam requirements have been realigned and will still allow students to pursue a track in comparative literature upon these discontinuations.

This discontinuation does not result in the reassignment or discontinuation of faculty or staff. Administrative assignments will be reduced to a single Director of Graduate Studies and a single Director of Graduate Admissions.

UNC Charlotte and Western Carolina University

Joint BSEE in Electrical Engineering (CIP 14.1001)

Since the joint BSEE was established in 2004, Western Carolina University has developed the capacities to deliver the degree program on its own. Fifty WCU students were enrolled in the BSEE in Fall 2015. In a related action, the Board of Governors is being asked to approve establishment of a standalone BSEE in Electrical Engineering at WCU, based on the capacities built through this joint offering. UNC Charlotte supports both requests.