

Graduate Programs Committee Agenda

Monday, September 30, 2019, 2:00 p.m., Coliseum 2054

Link to Addenda: https://drive.google.com/open?id=1GxvP7sTEqNZeUW6Dp-_37ujpRiYczOKF

I. Approval of September 4 Meeting Minutes

II. Course/Program Additions, Modifications, Deletions

Action Items:

A) Tanner Health System School of Nursing

1) Doctorate in Nursing Practice

Originator: Susan Welch

Request: Add

The proposed DNP program will prepare graduates for the next step in several ways. First, a program for students after entry into nurse practitioner practice, such as the UWG proposed MSN to DNP program, builds on students' clinical knowledge and practice in the attainment of doctoral-level competencies and skills. The proposed program, with a planned admission of a small cohort in 2020, is the first step to building the UWG DNP program because it will assist nurses who are currently MSN prepared nurse practitioners to develop high-level competencies needed for practice in today's health care environment as well as those skills needed as a nurse educator. Secondly, a major barrier to DNP education is the lack of doctorally prepared faculty (AACN, 2019, Enrollment/Graduations; Buerhaus, & et.al, 2017; Gorski & Polansky, 2018). Doctorally prepared faculty who are actively engaged in teaching and practice, as well as translational science are ideal for DNP programs. To provide the qualified faculty, the UWG DNP proposed program begins with the MSN to DNP track and also offers an optional focus in nursing education. The AACN 2019 Vision for Nursing Education Position Paper clearly states that optional course work in DNP programs should be offered for those interested in pursuing an academic career. Because of our tradition of educating nurse educators, we are uniquely qualified to prepare advanced practice NPs to transition to an educator role. The curriculum offers two didactics and one practicum course with a focus on nursing education. Finally, the second phase of the DNP proposal is for BSN prepared nurses wishing to obtain a doctoral degree. The direct route from BSN to DNP facilitates seamless academic progression.

MSN-DNP Degree Option:

Students who enter the MSN-DNP degree option will have a previous master's degree for advanced practice that has been built on the AACN's Master's Essentials. The graduates of such advanced practice MSN programs would already have attained many of the competencies defined in the DNP Essentials. Therefore, our MSN-DNP

degree is designed to provide those DNP competencies not previously attained for advanced practice nurses such as the strengthened scientific foundation for practice, created and sustained changes at the organizational and policy level, and the translation of research into practice with the dissemination and integration of new knowledge. The MSN-DNP degree will consist of 34-38 program hours over approximately five semesters full-time or eight semesters part-time to complete. The total number of program hours and practicum hours completed will depend upon the total practicum hours acquired in the previous advanced practice MSN degree. Therefore, a variable credit course exists in the DNP Specialty Practicum courses (NURS 8022 to NURS 8026) to provide flexibility with an overall total of 300 to 540 possible practicum hours.

BSN-DNP Degree Option:

The BSN-DNP degree option will offer a population-focused area of practice (family nurse practitioner) and will prepare graduates to meet the educational eligibility requirements for national certification. This curriculum will contain the DNP Essentials, which are deemed paramount for all graduates of a DNP program. The curriculum will also include the competencies, content, and practical experiences needed for a Family Nurse Practitioner focus as delineated by the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties (NONPF). The total number of program hours will consist of 70 program hours and 1080 practicum hours over approximately eight semesters full-time or eleven semesters part-time to complete. Within the 1080 practicum hours, approximately 540 hours will include supervised direct patient care, and 540 hours will consist of precepted immersion experiences. The precepted immersion experiences will provide an opportunity for further synthesis and expansion of learning, within which the final DNP project will be completed.

B) College of Arts and Humanities

1) Department of Art

Originator: John Morris

Request: Add

As a comprehensive university, the University of West Georgia's Department of Art seeks to implement a Master of Fine Arts in Visual Art (MFA-Visual Art) degree program to prepare graduates for professional practices within visual art and related fields. This will be achieved by providing advanced training within visual art disciplines and professional practices as well as pedagogy practices through guided teaching opportunities. The program focuses on student directed goals and self-assessment to assist in addressing the individual students needs and objectives to develop skills through experiential opportunities in both teaching and studio practices, which prepare and groom artists and cultural leaders of tomorrow. This terminal degree program will assist to prepare future Georgians who are versed in their discipline and practices and are prepared to contribute to the overall growth of

the state, whether it is within related professional practices, and/or faculty/teaching positions or working within other non-associated fields, which they can apply both skill sets and abilities gained. The MFA program will support UWG's and the University System of Georgia's strategic goal to expand graduate level program offerings in an effort to meet current and future state needs. Currently, there are only three MFA-Visual Art degree programs in the state: two within the Tier 1, UGA and Georgia State University, and one program within Tier 2 (Comprehensive institution tier group) offered by Georgia Southern University. UWG's proposed MFA-Visual Art will provide additional opportunities for Georgia residents by assisting visual arts graduates to enhance their professional abilities and skill-sets, better preparing them to meet the State's future workforce needs, comparable to those identified in the "Governor's High Demand Career Initiative Report". Additionally, it will fill a niche within Tier 2 degree offerings for Georgia due to the distance separating UWG and Georgia Southern University and the affordability UWG currently provides within the state. Furthermore, a UWG MFA program will primarily serve Georgia's western region and will attract attention (albeit small) from students in Alabama as well as those from other states (regional and national). The UWG MFA-Visual Art will assist in meeting the needs of a growing state population, which the Atlanta Regional Commission forecasts will increase by over 2.5 million in the twenty county regions around Atlanta alone by 2040. Additionally, the proposed MFA program will meet the needs of a flourishing arts industry, which contributes over 31,000 jobs and \$1.3 billion in revenue and an overall Economic impact of \$2.2 Billion and is further expanded as part of the total creative economy, which contributes to over 200,000 Georgians employed or 5% of the total state employment and \$12.1 billion in overall earnings and an overall creative economy of \$62.5 billion as reported by the Georgia Council for the Arts and the Economic Census and Non-employer statistics, 2012.