

Academic Program Proposals

October 28, 2011

The following is a list of academic program proposals being considered for approval at the October 28, 2011, Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board Meeting.

The Institution's Name, Program Title, and Program Summary are listed below. Contact ADHE for a copy of the proposals.

If you have concerns, objections, questions or comments concerning a specific proposal, please send them to **Cynthia Moten** (Cynthia.Moten@adhe.edu) at ADHE no later than **September 1, 2011**.

Arkansas State University-Jonesboro Associate of Applied Science in Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management Focus in Bachelor of Professional Studies Graduate Certificate in Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management Master of Science in Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management

Arkansas State University-Jonesboro is proposing new undergraduate and graduate programs in Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management. These programs will be provided on-line through the College of Nursing and Health Professions. The programs provide an interdisciplinary approach to prepare professionals to effectively meet the demands of disaster preparedness, mitigation, planning, response and recovery. The programs are management oriented and are not specifically homeland security-based. ASU-J is entering into a unique opportunity with the federal Center for Domestic Preparedness in Anniston, Alabama, which will provide students pursuing any of the programs with the opportunity to participate in training at the Center.

The ASU College of Nursing and Health Professions is the only Regional Center for Disaster Preparedness Education in the state certified to offer courses in Basic and Advanced Disaster Life Support. The Regional Center has created an increased interest from allied health, nursing, medicine, Emergency Medical Services, and fire fighter professionals for college level degree programs ranging from associate to graduate. In addition, the Center for Domestic Preparedness needed a pathway for its participants to obtain a degree beyond certifications in very specific content areas and asked ASU-J to collaborate in assisting with college level programs that would prepare experts in disaster preparedness and emergency management. Employer and student surveys corroborated the interest and need for such programs both regionally and nationally.

Arkansas Tech University Role and Scope Change Request – Doctor of Education in Executive Leadership

Arkansas Tech University is making a change in its role and scope to offer the first doctorate in the history of the institution, an Ed.D. in Executive Leadership. Arkansas Tech University has a demonstrated history of responding to the needs of its constituents and the State, and of being a good steward of the funds provided by the State and the tuition paid by its students.

ATU has a special role in serving students who are practitioners in the education field at the Educational Specialist (Ed.S.) level. This proposal is in keeping with this role in expanding opportunities for students and for keeping students in executive leadership roles in Arkansas public schools. The market demand for an Ed.D. for the practitioner/scholar exists based on requests from Arkansas Tech University and Henderson Ed.S. students along with demand from employers and other practitioners.

The special feature of the proposal is to address the need and accessibility of executive leadership training for the scholar/practitioner. The change of the institution to seek this change in role and scope

has been gradual in its development based on the success of the Ed.S program and demand from the Ed.S students. The careful planning of the proposed offering adds value to the advanced work completed through the Ed.S curriculum.

**Henderson State University
Bachelor of Science in Radiography**

The degree is the result of a formal partnership between Henderson State University and BAPTIST HEALTH Schools Little Rock. The two institutions will affiliate to provide exceptional education to future radiographers in the state of Arkansas. Radiographers are members of the healthcare team responsible for performing diagnostic x-ray examinations using ionizing radiation. The Bachelor of Science degree consists of 125 credit hours. Sixty-five credit hours (52%) are general education preparation provided by Henderson State University and 60 credit hours (48%) are professional curriculum provided by the BAPTIST HEALTH School of Radiography. Students will take general education courses on the HSU campus and the professional courses will be provided on the BAPTIST HEALTH campus in West Little Rock. The two institutions currently collaborate to offer a Bachelor of Science in Medical Technology.

**University of Arkansas Community College at Hope
Off-Campus Instructional Center in Texarkana, Arkansas**

Consistent with its mission, UACCH strives to enhance educational opportunities for residents in all counties within its primary service area in Southwest Arkansas. It is clear that expanded activities and delivery methods would benefit the citizens in one of our primary service area counties, Miller County. Therefore, the Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas has authorized UACCH to purchase 8.749 acres of property in Texarkana, Arkansas, located near the intersection of East 54th Street and Fair Park Drive. UACCH will construct a 10,000 square foot instructional facility on the site.

The increased access provided by the off-campus instruction center will positively impact the educational attainment levels of Miller County residents and increase the college-going rates of Miller County high school graduates, thereby contributing to the economic stability of the region and of our state. Currently, 13.8% of Miller County residents who are 25 or older have obtained a bachelor's degree (U.S. Census Bureau, 2010). The college-going rates for students from the three Miller County public high schools in 2010 were 17.4%, 21.1%, and 21% (ADHE).

The establishment of an off-campus instruction center in Texarkana, Arkansas, will provide the 43,000+ Miller County residents with broader access to higher education opportunities. The Center aims to serve three purposes. First, the Center will provide general education coursework which will allow students to earn associate's degrees which prepare them to transfer into baccalaureate programs in Arkansas. Secondly, the Center will eventually offer certificates and associate of applied science degrees appropriate to serve the Miller County workforce demands. Finally, UACCH plans to expand the Center's services to provide non-credit workforce and community education.

**University of Arkansas, Fayetteville
Master of Education and Doctor of Education in Adult and Lifelong Learning**

The proposed program, Adult and Lifelong Learning, would become a new major within the M.Ed. and Ed.D. degrees. This new major would replace the Adult Education concentration within the degree in Workforce Development Education. The establishment of the Adult and Lifelong Learning major is in response to the issues that were identified during the academic review of the Workforce Development Education program during spring 2010. The recommendation of the external reviewers was to develop a discernable adult education curriculum. The program faculty reviewed the current adult education course offerings and felt that it was necessary to establish a new academic program in order to address the issues within the current program as noted by the external reviewers.

Newly admitted students would enter the Adult and Lifelong Learning program beginning fall 2011. Current students enrolled in the adult education concentration in the Workforce Development Education

program would be given the option to transfer to the new program, or complete their degree in the existing program. The existing adult education concentration in Workforce Development Education would be eliminated.

Students pursuing the M.Ed. degree may also pursue Adult Education licensure in order to serve as adult education instructors at state-approved adult education and literacy programs. The Ed.D. courses will be offered in face-to-face, online, and blended formats. Face-to-face courses will be offered during evenings and weekends.

There are no anticipated additional costs and current faculty appointments will be sufficient to operate the program. No additional library resources will be required.

University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Master of Physician Assistant Studies

The College of Health Related Professions (CHRP) of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences is proposing a two-year education program leading to a Master of Physician Assistant Studies. Physician assistants (PA) are academically and clinically prepared to practice medicine with the direction and responsible supervision of a doctor of medicine or osteopathy. The physician-PA team relationship is fundamental to the PA profession and enhances the delivery of high quality health care. Graduates of this program will work under the supervision of a physician to improve the delivery of primary care to the people of Arkansas and to improve the overall delivery of health care to Arkansans through increased efficiencies and effectiveness. In 2000 Arkansas ranked last in the nation in the ratio of PAs to population and in 2011 it ranks fifth from last in its readiness to provide expanded Medicaid services called for under recent health care reform legislation.

There is support for the program from a significant percentage of hospital administrators and from practicing physicians. There is considerable interest among pre-health professions students in Arkansas who want to become a physician assistant as reported by pre-health professions advisors. The leadership within the Colleges of Medicine and Health Related Professions support the proposed program and the Chancellor of UAMS strongly supports the program through personal and financial commitments. We look forward to working with colleagues at UAMS and physician assistants in Arkansas to educate the medical community to the role and value of physician assistants in a rural, largely medically underserved state.

The two-year curriculum proposed here will be refined and more fully developed by physician assistant faculty in the near future. We will begin recruitment of a program director this May and anticipate hiring in the summer/fall of 2011. The director, clinical education director, and medical director will be instrumental in refining the curriculum and writing the application for provisional accreditation to be submitted to the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for Physician Assistants, Inc. (ARC-PA) in the summer of 2012. We anticipate a site visit in November of 2012 and a decision by the ARC-PA Board in March of 2013. Once the ARC-PA has granted provisional accreditation to the program, we will formally accept students and begin classes. We have outlined the learning outcomes of the curriculum and also described the procedures for the examination of the PA students.

The UAMS physician assistant program is supported by the Colleges Health Related Professions, Medicine, Nursing, and Pharmacy. Much of the instruction to PA students in the foundations of clinical practice will be carried out by College of Medicine faculty. Medical and PA students will learn much of their clinical medicine together. The programs listed below within the CHRP will provide faculty and, most probably, students for the PA program.

Doctor of Medicine
Bachelor of Science in Medical Technology
Master of Imaging Sciences
Bachelor of Science in Cardio-Respiratory Care
Associate of Science in Emergency Medical Sciences

College of Medicine
College of Health Related Professions
College of Health Related Professions
College of Health Related Professions
College of Health Related Professions

**University of Central Arkansas
Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing**

The Department of Writing in the College of Fine Arts and Communication at the University of Central Arkansas proposes a writing-intensive MFA studio program in Creative Writing that will uniquely prepare graduates for careers in writing pedagogy and publishing. This terminal degree program will be based on existing and new courses offered by the Department and will be supported by UCA's BA in Writing, its BA in Creative Writing, its BA in Linguistics, and graduate courses in Linguistics.

This MFA will provide graduate students the opportunity to concentrate on the study, practice, and teaching of Creative Writing in a highly focused writing program taught primarily by writers for writers. At 60 hours, this three-year program will ensure that graduates build multi-genre backgrounds in the popular discipline of Creative Writing through workshops, forms courses, topics courses, a wide variety of electives, and specialized teaching and editing practicums. To ensure individualized attention, the program will admit 5 to 8 students annually. Ideally, students will be full time (9 to 12 hours per semester). After being trained, some students will be offered mentored graduate assistantships for teaching introductory undergraduate classes in Writing; others will receive departmental support as graduate assistants in the Writing Center. Sponsored Programs and Torreyson Library at UCA have also pledged their support for employing graduate students in the proposed MFA program in Creative Writing. All students will complete a thesis project.

Presently, graduate programs in Creative Writing are dominated by studio/research programs that emphasize coursework in literature. Since studio/research programs are housed primarily in English departments that offer writing "tracks" or "concentrations," they are much more academic in nature than studio programs. Studio programs are much more writing-intensive than studio/research programs, since they rely on a much more rigorous regiment of workshops and independent studies in order to train students specifically in the art of writing. Whereas there are 92 studio/research programs in Creative Writing in the country, there are only 17 studio programs at the MFA level. Hence, as an alternative to English-department-based studio/research programs, the Writing Department at UCA is enthusiastic to offer a specialized studio program in Creative Writing with a rigorous "hands on" approach to the craft.

Institutional Certification Advisory Committee (ICAC)

The following applications for certification will be reviewed by ADHE for possible consideration at the September 2011 ICAC quarterly meeting.

American InterContinental University, Hoffman Estates, Illinois

Initial Certification – Distance Technology
Associate of Arts in Business Administration
Associate of Arts in Business Administration (Completion Program)
Bachelor of Accounting
Bachelor of Business Administration
Bachelor of Business Administration (Completion Program)
Bachelor of Information Technology (Completion Program)
Bachelor of Fine Arts (Completion Program)
Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice (Completion Program)
Master of Accounting

American Sentinel University, Aurora, Colorado

Initial Certification – Distance Technology
Associate of Science in Business Administration
Bachelor of Science in Business Administration
Bachelor of Science in Computer Science
Bachelor of Science in Geographic Information Systems
Bachelor of Science in Information Technology
Master of Science in Computer Science

Belhaven University, Jackson, Mississippi

Initial Certification – Distance Technology
Associate of Arts
Bachelor of Science in Management
Master of Business Administration
Master of Public Administration
Master of Science in Leadership

Chamberlain College of Nursing, Addison Illinois

Recertification – Distance Technology
Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Master of Science in Nursing

Colorado Technical University, Colorado Springs, Colorado

Initial Certification – Distance Technology
Associate of Science
Bachelor of Science in Accounting
Bachelor of Science in Business Administration
Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice
Bachelor of Science in Finance
Bachelor of Science in Financial Forensics

Columbia College, Columbia, Missouri

Initial Certification – Distance Technology
Associate in General Studies
Bachelor of General Studies
Bachelor of Arts in History
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology
Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

DeVry University, Naperville, Illinois

Initial Certification – Distance Technology
Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Administration
Master of Public Health
Certificate in CPA Preparation
Recertification – Distance Technology
Associate of Applied Science in Accounting
Associate of Applied Science in Network Systems Administration
Bachelor of Science in Technical Management
Bachelor of Science in Business
Master of Project Management
Master of Information Systems
Master of Network and Communications Management
Master of Public Administration

Everest University, Orlando Florida

Initial Certification – Distance Technology
Associate of Applied Science in Accounting
Associate of Applied Science in Applied Management
Associate of Applied Science in Computer Information
Bachelor of Science in Accounting
Bachelor of Science in Business
Master of Business Administration

Grand Canyon University, Phoenix, Arizona

Initial Certification – Distance Technology
Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies
Master of Science in Accounting
Master of Business Administration and Master of Science in Leadership (Dual Degree)
Master of Science in Psychology

ITT Technical Institute, Indianapolis, Indiana

Initial Certification, Little Rock Campus
Associate of Applied Science in Criminology and Forensics Technology
Bachelor of Science in Business Management
Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering and Communications
Bachelor of Science in Information Systems and Cybersecurity
Bachelor of Science in Project Management and Administration
Options in: Project Management and Administration, Information Technology, Construction

Kaplan University, Davenport, Iowa

Recertification – Distance Technology
Associate of Applied Science in Health Information Technology
Associate of Applied Science in Human Services
Bachelor of Science in Health Information
Bachelor of Science in Human Services
Bachelor of Science in Accounting
Bachelor of Science in Business Administration
Bachelor of Science in Communication
Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice
Bachelor of Science in Health and Wellness
Bachelor of Science in Health Science
Bachelor of Science in Information Technology
Bachelor of Science in Legal Studies
Bachelor of Science in Liberal Studies
Bachelor of Science in Nutrition Science
Bachelor of Science in Paralegal Studies
Master of Business Administration
Master of Science in Higher Education
Master of Science in Management

Liberty University, Lynchburg, Virginia

Initial Certification – Distance Technology
Associate of Arts in Business
Associate of Arts in Criminal Justice
Associate of Arts in General Studies
Associate of Arts in Psychology
Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice
Bachelor of Science in Business
Specializations in Economics, Finance, International Business, Management, and Marketing

Norwich University, Northfield, Vermont

Initial Certification – Distance Technology
Master of Arts in Diplomacy
Master of Arts in History
Master of Arts in Military History
Master of Business Administration
Master of Civil Engineering
Master of Public Administration

Rasmussen College, Ocala, Florida
Initial Certification – Distance Technology
Bachelor of Science in Accounting
Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice
Bachelor of Science in Digital Design and Animation
Bachelor of Science in Game and Simulation Programming
Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Management
Bachelor of Science in Health Information Management

Strayer University, Washington, D.C.
Recertification – Distance Technology and Little Rock Campus
Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice
Master of Science in Human Resource Management
Master of Science in Information Systems

Victory University, Memphis, Tennessee
Initial Certification – Distance Technology
Bachelor of Science in Organizational Management
Bachelor of Science in Psychology
Bachelor of Science in Business Administration – Specializations in Finance, Management and Marketing

Pending Review by Arkansas State Board of Nursing

American Sentinel University, Aurora, Colorado
Initial Certification – Distance Technology
RN to Master of Science in Nursing
Doctor of Nursing Practice

Chamberlain College of Nursing, Addison, Illinois
Initial Certification– Distance Technology
Doctor of Nursing Practice

Colorado Technical University, Colorado Springs, Colorado
Initial Certification – Distance Technology
Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.
Initial Certification – Distance Technology
Master of Science in Nursing - Tracks in Family Nurse Practitioner, Nurse Midwifery/Women's Health
Nurse Practitioner, Nursing Education, Adult Acute Care Nurse Practitioner, Adult Acute and Critical
Care Clinical Nurse Specialist

Graceland University, Independence, Missouri
Initial Certification – Distance Technology
Doctor of Nursing Practice, Organizational Leadership

Kaplan University, Davenport, Iowa
Initial Certification – Distance Technology
Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Master of Science in Nursing

Norwich University, Northfield, Vermont
Initial Certification – Distance Technology
Master of Science in Nursing

Oklahoma Wesleyan University, Bartlesville, Oklahoma
Initial Certification – Distance Technology
Registered Nurse to Bachelors of Nursing (RN – BSN)

Rasmussen College, Ocala, Florida
Initial Certification – Distance Technology
Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Pending Review by Arkansas Department of Education

American InterContinental University, Hoffman Estates, Illinois
Initial Certification – Distance Technology
Master of Education

Colorado State University Continuing Education, Greenwood Village, Colorado
Initial Certification – Distance Technology
Master of Education in Adult Education and Training

Jones International University, Centennial, Colorado
Initial Certification – Distance Technology
Education Specialist in K-12 Education Leadership
Master of Education
Doctor of Education

Missouri State University, Springfield, Missouri
Initial Certification – Distance Technology
Master of Science in Education: Educational Administration
Master of Science in Education: Elementary Education
Master of Science in Education: Special Education/Visual Impairment Emphasis
Education Specialist Degree in Educational Administration/Superintendent

Norwich University, Northfield, Vermont
Initial Certification – Distance Technology
Certificate of Teaching and Learning