

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
Committee Chairman Krier

Date: November 8, 2001
Time: Following the Meeting of the Finance and Planning Committee
Place: Room 401, Robert R. Muntz Library, U. T. Tyler

	<u>Page</u>
1. U. T. Board of Regents: Request to Authorize the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs to Work with Each U. T. System General Academic Component to Develop a Teacher Certification Course Accessibility Plan	50
2. U. T. Arlington: Request for Authorization to Establish a Master of Science Degree Program in Physiology of Exercise and Approval to Submit the Proposal and Change in the Institution's Table of Programs to the Coordinating Board for Approval (Catalog Change); and Authorization of Certification that Coordinating Board Criteria for Approval Are Met Except for Previous Approval of Planning Authority	51
3. U. T. Brownsville: Request for Authorization to Establish a Master of Education Degree Program in Bilingual Education; Approval to Submit the Proposed Degree Program and Change in the Institution's Table of Programs to the Coordinating Board for Approval (Catalog Change); and Authorization of Certification that Coordinating Board Criteria for Approval Are Met Except for Previous Approval of Planning Authority	54
4. U. T. Brownsville: Request for Authorization to Rename the Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences Degree as Bachelor of Applied Technology; to Add Tracks in Technology Application/ Training, Computer Information Systems Technology, and Health Services Technology; and Approval to Submit the Proposal to the Coordinating Board for Approval (Catalog Change)	57

1. U. T. Board of Regents: Request to Authorize the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs to Work with Each U. T. System General Academic Component to Develop a Teacher Certification Course Accessibility Plan

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs that the U. T. Board of Regents authorize the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs to work with each of the teacher preparation programs at the U. T. System general academic components to develop a plan including implementation timelines and strategies, to make teacher certification courses more accessible to students seeking teacher certification. In developing the plan, the Executive Vice Chancellor will consider evening classes, Internet classes, or other means approved by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Texas Education Code Section 54.214(g) requires the governing board of an institution of higher education that offers courses required for teacher certification to establish a plan to make those courses more accessible to those who seek teacher certification no later than January 1, 2002.

Each component must have a conforming plan on file in the Office of Academic Affairs by January 1, 2002. The plans will be presented to the Academic Affairs Committee of the U. T. Board of Regents during Spring 2002 and will be reported to the U. T. Board of Regents at the May 2002 meeting.

2. U. T. Arlington: Request for Authorization to Establish a Master of Science Degree Program in Physiology of Exercise and Approval to Submit the Proposal and Change in the Institution's Table of Programs to the Coordinating Board for Approval (Catalog Change); and Authorization of Certification that Coordinating Board Criteria for Approval Are Met Except for Previous Approval of Planning Authority

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and President Witt that authorization be granted to U. T. Arlington to establish a Master of Science degree program in Physiology of Exercise; to submit the proposal to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for review and appropriate action; and to authorize the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs to certify on behalf of the U. T. Board of Regents that relevant Coordinating Board criteria for approval by the Commissioner of Higher Education have been met, except for previous approval of planning authority. In addition, the Coordinating Board will be asked to change the Table of Programs for U. T. Arlington to reflect authorization for the proposed degree program. It is consistent with the institutional plans for offering quality degree programs to meet student needs. A description of the degree program is included in the Background Information of this agenda item.

Upon approval by the Coordinating Board, the next appropriate catalog published at U. T. Arlington will be amended to reflect this action.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Program Description

The proposed M.S. degree in Physiology of Exercise is designed to accomplish two major objectives:

- 1) prepare students for employment in medically-oriented environments that place an emphasis on research; and
- 2) provide students with the academic and research skills needed for doctoral study in Physiology of Exercise.

Current faculty members in the Department of Kinesiology have been academically trained in, and are actively publishing in, the areas of Physiology of Exercise and the general areas of allied health sciences. The ongoing research in these areas provides the primary focus for the proposed M.S. program. Program graduates will be well prepared to work as researchers in the physiology of exercise and to enroll in doctoral programs in this content area. Licensure and certification are possible through the American College of Sports Medicine, a national professional and scientific organization representing more than 40 medical and scientific specialties. Licensure is possible at three different levels in either a preventive or a rehabilitative track.

Need and Student Demand

The proposed program would be the only master's degree program in Physiology of Exercise in a public university in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex. National and State studies point out the need for improved physical fitness and health for all age groups in our society, from preschoolers through senior citizens. A number of public and private entities have been developed to meet the need for better programs. Hospitals have established fitness and health assessment programs; private health and fitness, spas, clubs, and gymnasiums are expanding; and public schools are beginning to focus on fitness improvement. The M.S. degree in Physiology of Exercise is designed to prepare and provide in-service for these program directors, exercise leaders, and teachers in the Metroplex.

The development of this program is consistent with long-range academic plans of both the Department of Kinesiology and U. T. Arlington. The department's six-year plan calls for (1) an increase in graduate enrollments, (2) expansion of the course work in the exercise science area, and (3) collaboration with other departments from U. T. Arlington. The long-range goals of U. T. Arlington include increasing graduate course offerings and research productivity.

There is considerable interest from allied health scientists, including physical therapists, nurses, nutritionists, biomedical scientists, and those in hospital and corporate-based wellness programs; liberal arts majors; public school teachers; and coaches in such a degree. Many students with undergraduate degrees other than in physical education (e.g., biology, psychology, nursing, and physical therapy) are seeking graduate degrees in exercise science. For many exercise science programs that are currently available, the emphasis is on program development and

administration rather than research. The intent of the proposed M.S. degree is not to duplicate these development-oriented programs; rather, the emphasis will be placed on the development of research skills.

Initially, approximately 50 percent of the graduate students enrolled in the program will be new to the institution. It is anticipated that as the M.S. in Physiology of Exercise program is developed, there will be an increased interest in the undergraduate science curriculum. Consequently, with the development and increased enrollment of the undergraduate exercise science core, it is anticipated that approximately 50-65 percent of the increase in graduate students would come from the undergraduate program.

Program Quality

All faculty initially offering courses, conducting research, and providing thesis supervision in the new program will be tenured/tenure-track full-time faculty currently in the Department of Kinesiology. The program will receive teaching and research support from several existing programs within the university including: Biology, Biomedical Engineering, Industrial Engineering, Nursing, and Psychology. In addition, three graduate research assistants and a laboratory assistant will be added to support additional research activities.

Program Cost

Anticipated additional costs to the University associated with the new degree program are \$735,500 over a five-year period. New program costs include: equipment, materials, graduate assistantships, faculty salaries, and other start-up costs. Program funding for the first two years will come exclusively from reallocation of existing resources. It is anticipated that tuition and formula funding revenues for years three to five will exceed costs.

Coordinating Board Criteria

The program meets seven of the eight applicable Coordinating Board Criteria for degree programs that may be approved by the Commissioner of Higher Education on behalf of the Coordinating Board. The proposed M.S. degree will require that the Table of Programs for U. T. Arlington be amended; therefore, the program does not meet the Certification for Approval of New Bachelor's and Master's Level Degree Programs by the Commissioner and must be approved by the Coordinating Board.

Summary

U. T. Arlington is requesting authorization to establish a Master of Science in Physiology of Exercise. The demand for research and preparation of teachers and leaders in fitness and health programs has increased. As a result of establishing this program, U. T. Arlington anticipates both attracting graduate students who are new to the institution and an increased interest in the undergraduate exercise science core.

3. U. T. Brownsville: Request for Authorization to Establish a Master of Education Degree Program in Bilingual Education; Approval to Submit the Proposed Degree Program and Change in the Institution's Table of Programs to the Coordinating Board for Approval (Catalog Change); and Authorization of Certification that Coordinating Board Criteria for Approval Are Met Except for Previous Approval of Planning Authority

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and President García that authorization be granted to U. T. Brownsville to establish a Master of Education degree program in Bilingual Education; to submit the proposal to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for review and appropriate action; and to authorize the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs to certify on behalf of the U. T. Board of Regents that relevant Coordinating Board criteria for approval by the Commissioner of Higher Education have been met, except for previous approval of planning authority. In addition, the Coordinating Board will be asked to change the Table of Programs for U. T. Brownsville to reflect authorization for the proposed degree program. This degree proposal is consistent with the institutional plans for offering quality degree programs to meet student needs. A description of the degree program is included in the Background Information of this agenda item.

Upon approval by the Coordinating Board, the next appropriate catalog published at U. T. Brownsville will be amended to reflect this action.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Program Description

U. T. Brownsville proposes to develop a Master of Education degree in Bilingual Education with a focus on Dual Language Instruction. The program will prepare teachers at the master's degree level for leadership positions and strengthen their knowledge in traditional (e.g., transitional, early exit) and nontraditional (e.g., dual language, maintenance) bilingual programs. The program is being developed to meet the criteria of national and State bilingual educator standards for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, the Council of Graduate Schools, and the Association of Graduate Schools.

The bilingual education area of study will provide students with a foundation of knowledge and experience in the following areas:

- Theoretical foundations of bilingual education, including analysis of current research in the field of language instruction and a synthesis of the history of bilingual education;
- Development and organization of bilingual curriculum;
- Analyses of the socio-cultural issues that impact policy;
- Pedagogical theories for instruction and assessment;
- Scholarly research, including critical reflection on past, current, and future practices; and
- Strengthening strategies for first and second language development.

The graduate will be able to provide:

- Leadership in development and administration of innovative bilingual programs (e.g., two-way bilingual, gifted and talented dual language instruction);
- Deep knowledge in core bilingual teaching competencies and standards; and
- Bilingual policy analysis and development at the State and local levels.

Program Need and Student Demand

The Rio Grande Valley has 13 school districts implementing dual language programs from Laredo to Brownsville. Forty percent of the students in this region have been identified as Limited English Proficient. Of these students, 36.5 percent are in a bilingual or English as a Second Language (ESL) program.

According to the State Board for Educator Certification, there are 5,787 teachers certified in the Rio Grande Valley. Of these, 1,054 are teaching in bilingual classrooms. Only 12 percent of the teachers hold graduate degrees.

Many teachers in bilingual/ESL classrooms are seeking ways to enhance their training and capability and are searching for graduate programs that will strengthen their understanding of teaching theories and practices and prepare them for leadership positions.

It is anticipated that the U. T. Brownsville M.Ed. in Bilingual Education will begin with 15 students. A current Texas Provisional Education Certificate and a bilingual endorsement are prerequisites for admission to the program. A cohort of 15 students will be added in each following year.

Program Quality

Full-time tenured/tenure-track faculty will offer all courses in the new program. Initially, seven degreed faculty from the Curriculum and Instruction department will offer courses for students in the new program. It is anticipated that four additional faculty will be added during the first three years of the program. All new faculty will hold a doctoral degree in the areas of Curriculum and Instruction, Bilingual/ESL, or a related field.

Program Cost

Costs to the University associated with the new program will be \$289,200 for the next five years. These costs include faculty salaries, graduate assistantships, and support staff salaries. A reallocation of existing resources will provide funding for the program for the first two years. It is anticipated that formula funding and tuition revenues will exceed costs in years three to five.

Coordinating Board Criteria

This program meets seven of the eight applicable Coordinating Board Criteria for degree programs that may be approved by the Commissioner of Higher Education on behalf of the Coordinating Board. The proposed M.Ed. degree will require that the Table of Programs for U. T. Brownsville be amended; therefore, the program does not meet the Certification for Approval of New Bachelor's and Master's Level Degree Programs by the Commissioner and must be approved by the Coordinating Board.

Summary

U. T. Brownsville is requesting authorization to establish a Master of Education degree in Bilingual Education with a focus in Dual Language Instruction. Although the estimates vary on the shortage of bilingual teachers, experts state that a shortage exists and institutions are not graduating bilingual and ESL teachers quickly enough to overcome this shortage.

4. U. T. Brownsville: Request for Authorization to Rename the Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences Degree as Bachelor of Applied Technology; to Add Tracks in Technology Application/Training, Computer Information Systems Technology, and Health Services Technology; and Approval to Submit the Proposal to the Coordinating Board for Approval (Catalog Change)

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and President García that authorization be granted to U. T. Brownsville to rename the Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences (B.A.A.S.) as Bachelor of Applied Technology (B.A.T.); to add tracks in Technology Application/Training, Computer Information Systems Technology, and Health Services Technology; and to submit the proposal to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for review and appropriate action.

The proposed changes to the existing B.A.A.S. program are within the Coordinating Board's approved listing of programs and are not considered to constitute a change of the currently approved Role and Scope of academic programs at U. T. Brownsville. The proposed B.A.T. program is consistent with the institutional plans

for offering quality degree programs to meet student needs. A description of the program is included in the Background Information of this agenda item.

Upon approval by the Coordinating Board, the next appropriate catalog published at U. T. Brownsville will be amended to reflect this action.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Program Description

The proposed change to the B.A.A.S. includes the change of the name to Bachelor of Applied Technology to better demonstrate the contrast to the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) and Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degrees and addition of tracks in Technology Application and Training, Computer Information Systems Technology, and Health Services Technology to the existing tracks of Business Technologies (Workforce Leadership/Supervision) and Liberal Arts (with an option of Translation Studies English/Spanish).

The name Bachelor of Applied Technology was selected to contrast with the Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees, which emphasize the liberal arts and sciences, respectively, and the Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences, which does not allow that contrast.

The proposed B.A.T. is aimed at meeting the increasing demand for mid-managers, supervisors, and instructors who can assess, manage, supervise, and assist in training and advancing technology in the marketplace in the form of innovative operations, services, production, and instruction. In association with the applied associate's degrees and certifications of U. T. Brownsville's partner Texas Southmost College, the B.A.T. will become a high point for workforce education.

The B.A.T. is an "inverted" degree program, which will allow individuals to apply a vocational/technical field (i.e., courses, training, or work experience) as credit toward an applied associate's degree, and, in turn, to apply the associate's degree toward a B.A.T., allowing the student to complete both degrees in the shortest reasonable time period. Current occupational and technical degrees and certificates will lose their "terminal degree" characteristics and will be applicable to an applied baccalaureate program.

Need and Student Demand

Texas is experiencing increasing shortages of skilled labor and instructors for skilled and technical workforce training. Population groups seriously affected by the lack of training and educational opportunities belong primarily to minority populations in Central and South Texas and to groups in rural areas throughout Texas and the United States. The majority of the affected population groups have access to occupational/technical training degree or certificate programs that can be used as a foundation for the B.A.T.

The B.A.T. is designed to attract individuals who have completed occupational/technical degrees and certificates at community, vocational, and technical colleges and schools; individuals who have completed occupational/vocational training in U. S. Service Schools, the workplace, and career training centers; occupational and technical faculty at regional and local public schools; and individuals who have received several years of on-the-job training.

Program Quality

The proposed modifications to the existing B.A.A.S. program are viewed by the institution as improvements and expansions to a program that has been successfully offered since 1987. The 15 experienced and appropriately degreed faculty members (one M.D., one M.B.A., seven Ph.D., and six M.A./M.S.) currently offering courses in support of the B.A.A.S. will offer the courses for the B.A.T.

Program Cost

Nominal new costs are associated with the proposed program modifications. One additional faculty member will be added at an estimated annual rate of \$48,000.

Summary

U. T. Brownsville is requesting authorization to rename the Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences (B.A.A.S.) as the Bachelor of Applied Technology (B.A.T.) and to add tracks in Technology Application/Training, Computer Information Systems Technology, and Health Services Technology. The B.A.T. degree will allow individuals to apply a vocational/technical field (i.e., courses, training, or work experience) as credit toward an applied associate's degree, and, in turn, to apply the associate's degree toward a B.A.T., allowing the student to complete both degrees in the shortest reasonable time period.