

MEMORANDUM

TO: Tamara Machmut-Jhashi
Secretary, University Senate

FROM: David J. Downing
Interim Vice Provost
Graduate Education and Academic Administration

RE: Proposed MS in Safety Management Program

DATE: December 12, 2005

The Graduate Council has completed a review of the concerns expressed by the Senate Planning & Review Committee regarding the proposed MS in Safety Management program. After meeting with Dean Hightower and Professor Charles McGlothlin, the Graduate Council reaffirms the recommendation to approve the program proposal. As part of the review, the council carefully considered the following areas:

- The proposed program curriculum is highly interdisciplinary in nature, providing courses to prepare or advance students for positions associated with workplace safety, regulations and compliance issues in business, industry and/or the public sector. This is a complex and rapidly evolving area, so utilizing well-qualified industrial and clinical practitioners to augment the core courses provided by the full-time faculty seems both appropriate and educationally sound. In this regard, the proposed M.S. in Safety Management program parallels several existing programs (e.g., the Master's of Public Administration, Physical Therapy and Nursing programs) that combine the talents of full-time faculty with the expertise of carefully selected practitioners. Dean Hightower views this as a critical component of the program and anticipates instructional and research activities in this program will be substantially enriched by the contributions of these professionals.
- In collaboration with the School of Health Sciences, the School of Business Administration has enthusiastically committed resources to meet the curriculum demands of the proposed program. In particular, Dean Silberman has agreed to offer 15 of the total 32 credits hours [Attachment A and Attachment B]. The SPRC may have overlooked this component of the curricular offerings in its discussion of needed faculty resources.
- Subsequent to the last review by the SPRC, the School of Health Sciences has received accreditation from the Applied Science Accreditation Commission of ABET for its undergraduate program in Occupational Health and Safety.

- As a measure of the importance of and need for such a program, the School of Health Sciences received a \$22,500 grant from the DaimlerChrysler Corporation Fund to “support curriculum development for a new Master of Science degree in Safety Management.”

The proposed program in Safety Management addresses a very real need in the workplace as evidenced by the extensive list of external letters commending the design and intent of the program. In this regard it is not a traditional masters program leading to continued studies at the doctoral level, but rather one that is intended to prepare our students for leadership in a field that is “timely and needed.” (Joseph Calcaterra, Calcaterra and Associates).

Please let me know if you need any additional information to move forward with Senate approval of this proposal.

Cc: Virinder Moudgil
Ken Hightower
Charles McGlothlin
Claire Rammel