



Item: VI.b

THURSDAY, MAY 24, 2012

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF TERMINATION OF THE MASTER OF ARTS IN LIBERAL STUDIES (24.0101).

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

Approval of the termination of the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies (24.0101).

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Office of the University Provost has always worked with each college to identify programs which no longer justify the cost of instruction on the basis of enrollment, demand, centrality to the mission of the University, or which no longer meet the needs of the citizens of Florida by providing a viable educational or occupational objective. In addition, last year, FAU participated in an initiative of the Florida Board of Governors and the Council of Academic Vice Presidents on Articulation, Coordination and Coherence of Academic Delivery across the State University System. The M.A. degree in Liberal Studies was one degree identified as having low degree productivity over a five-year period.

Admission to this degree program was suspended in Spring 2010 because of low enrollment. There are currently two students in the program. Both students have met with an advisor and developed a plan for completion of the degree by December 2012. The college has graduate programs in a number of areas (English, Women's Studies, Communication, Linguistics and History, for example) that would be of interest to students wishing to enhance their knowledge of the liberal arts. This is an interdisciplinary program taught by graduate faculty from other departments in the college. The termination of this degree program will have no adverse effect on students or associated faculty members.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN/DATE

Effective Spring 2013 upon approval by the Florida Atlantic University Board of Trustees.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The recommended actions are part of an effort to remove inefficient or non-productive degree programs from the University degree inventory. Since these programs no longer meet student needs they essentially have no current enrollment and are not drawing faculty and other resources, very modest savings may be expected.

PROGRAM TERMINATION FORM
Board of Governors, State University System of Florida

UNIVERSITY: _____ Florida Atlantic University _____

PROGRAM NAME: _____ Masters of Arts in Liberal Studies _____

DEGREE LEVEL(S): _____ MA _____ **CIP CODE:** 24.0101 _____

(Ph.D., Ed.D., etc) (Classification of Instructional Programs)

ANTICIPATED TERMINATION DATE: _____ Spring 2013 _____

(Last date that students will be accepted into program)

ANTICIPATED PHASE-OUT DATE: _____

(Last date that data will be submitted for this program)

This is the form to be used for university requests to terminate doctoral degree programs and is recommended for use when terminating other programs. The request should be approved by the University Board of Trustees (UBOT) prior to submission to the Board of Governors, State University System of Florida for approval. Please fill out this form completely for each program to be terminated in order for your request to be processed as quickly as possible. Attach additional pages as necessary to provide a complete response. In the case of baccalaureate or master's degree programs, the UBOT may approve termination in accordance with BOG Regulation 8.012 (3), with notification sent to the Board of Governors, Office of Academic and Student Affairs. The issues outlined below should be examined by the UBOT in approving termination.

1. Provide a narrative rationale for the request to terminate the program.

This degree has been suspended since Spring 2010 due to poor quality, low enrollment, and inadequate administration. Currently, there are two active students enrolled in this program.

3. Indicate on which campus(es) the program is being offered and the extent to which the proposed termination has had or will have an impact on enrollment, enrollment planning, and/or the reallocation of resources.

The program was offered in Boca and Davie. There will be little impact on enrollment or allocation of resources--there were few students in the program and almost no one received graduate teaching assistantship. Neither will this termination impact faculty assignment, since this program depended on courses cross-listed from other graduate programs in the college.

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4. **Provide an explanation of the manner in which the University intends to accommodate any students or faculty who are currently active in the program scheduled to be terminated. State what steps have been taken to inform students and faculty of the intent to terminate the program?**

Both students have chosen the path of a project to allow their completion of the degree by December 2012. A faculty member in Philosophy is overseeing both their projects and is confident that they will complete their degrees in December 2012.

5. **Provide data (and cite source) on the gender and racial distribution of students and faculty. For faculty also list the rank and tenure status of all affected individuals.**

No faculty lines are affected, because it is an interdisciplinary program that utilizes faculty expertise in various departments.

6. **Identify any potential negative impact of the proposed action on the current representation of females, minorities, faculty, and students.**

None

PROGRAM TERMINATION FORM (PAGE 3)

Heather Coltman

Signature of Requestor/Initiator

3-21-12

Date

Paula Behal

Signature of Campus EO Officer

3-22-12

Date

Heather Coltman

Signature of College Dean

3-21-12

Date

Brenda J. Claitor

Signature of Vice President for
Academic Affairs

4/10/12

Date

REVISED 11/2009

