

Contact: Diana Gonzalez

**REQUEST TO TERMINATE MASTER OF SCIENCE PROGRAM IN
BUSINESS AT IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY**

Action Requested: Consider approval of the request by Iowa State University to terminate the Master of Science Program in Business.

Executive Summary: The request to terminate the Program is due to the fact that there has been little demand for the program during the past 10 years. This request was reviewed by the Board Office and the Council of Provosts and is recommended for approval. This request addresses the Board of Regents Strategic Plan strategy (4.1.1) to “pursue opportunities to realize greater efficiency in operations, consistent with best practices in the delivery of education and other services.”

Background:

- ◇ **Description of program.** This program consists of a minimum of 30 credits and is oriented toward additional business specialization at the master’s level for students with undergraduate degrees or academic backgrounds in business. The program is intended to serve those students who desire specialized study of an area within business. The program is also suitable for students planning to pursue a Ph.D. in business.
- ◇ **Cost savings.** No faculty or staff reductions or reassignments are anticipated as a result of the proposed program termination. Elimination of this program is not expected to free up existing facilities or equipment.
- ◇ **Reason for proposed termination.** Currently, only one student is enrolled in this program. During the past four years, there have been only two graduates from the program. Students who desire a professional graduate degree in business prefer the Master of Business Administration (MBA) program. Students who desire a research degree in business may pursue the Ph.D. program in Business and Technology.
- ◇ **Alternative programming.** Students interested in a master’s level program in business will have the option to enroll in the MBA program.
- ◇ **Effect on current students.** A transition period will not be needed because the student currently enrolled in this program has completed all coursework and expects to graduate in Spring 2010.
- ◇ **Effective date of termination.** If the proposed program termination is approved by the Board, suspension of new admissions to the program and termination of the program will become effective immediately.