

Contact: Diana Gonzalez

REQUEST TO TERMINATE THE MASTER OF ARTS PROGRAM IN PERFORMANCE AND TRAINING TECHNOLOGY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA

Action Requested: Consider recommending approval of the request by the University of Northern Iowa to terminate the Master of Arts Program in Performance Training Technology in the College of Education.

Executive Summary: The request to terminate the program resulted from lack of enrollment in the program. 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 priority to pursue “educational excellence and impact” and Goal #8 – “Iowa’s public universities and special schools shall be increasingly efficient and productive.”

Background:

- ◇ Description of program. The Master of Arts Program in Performance and Training Technology was designed to provide support for trainers and instructional designers in the commercial world. It has many of the same courses as the Instructional Technology Program with a commercial perspective emphasized in the work completed by students.
- ◇ Reason for proposed termination. Enrollment in the program dropped significantly when the faculty member who taught most of the classes retired. After the existing students completed their courses, no new students enrolled.
- ◇ Impact of proposed termination on programming. No impact on other programming is anticipated. The Instructional Technology Division at UNI has shown strong growth during the past five years.
- ◇ Three-year trend of enrollments and graduations. Enrollment dropped to zero during the past five years. Graduations dropped to zero during the past five years.
- ◇ Impact on resources. No cost savings will occur. The new faculty member’s focus is on other program areas in the division.
- ◇ Impact on workforce. UNI’s program was very small because its focus was on non-educational settings in instructional technology. There have been no new entrants into the workforce from this program during the past five years.
- ◇ Alternative programming. A similar program (Instructional Design) is available at Iowa State University. Students at UNI who have an interest in this field are able to find alternative programming in the Instructional Technology Division.
- ◇ Effect on current students. There are no students currently enrolled in the program.
- ◇ Effective date of termination. If the proposed program termination is approved by the Board, termination of the program will become effective immediately and will be reflected on the department website and University Catalog. Immediate termination of the program is possible because there are no current students.