

TOPIC: PROPOSAL TO OFFER BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ATHLETIC TRAINING AT UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN COLORADO

PREPARED BY: HEATHER DELANGE

I. SUMMARY

This action item is for initial approval to change the University of Northern Colorado's Bachelor of Science in Sport and Exercise Science with an emphasis in Athletic Training to a Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training at the University of Northern Colorado. This name change is necessary to satisfy the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training (CAATE) requirement that all CAATE accredited programs must offer a degree in Athletic Training.

II. BACKGROUND

UNC received approval to offer the Bachelor of Science in Sport and Exercise Science in December of 2005. UNC is seeking approval of this name change to ensure compliance with statute and CCHE policy.

The following is summarized from UNC's proposal.

The rationale for the change stemmed mainly from completion of the annual report for the 2007-2008 academic year. According to CAATE, "*educational content required of an entry-level athletic training educational program, as defined by the NAA Educational Competencies, is unique to the profession of Athletic Training, comprehensive in its content, and contains sufficient importance and potential for public health impact to warrant its own academic recognition to be recognized as an academic major.*" (Fall 2006 newsletter).

Additionally, based on the Spring 2007 reaccreditation process, CAATE cited the need for UNC's athletic training clinical program to grant a degree in Athletic Training by the 2014-15 academic year. The degree may not be dually-tagged with any other major.

There was no change to the former degree requirements or coursework, nor were any additional faculty or resources required to make the change. This change, in essence, moved the emphasis area to a new major and degree designation.

III. STAFF ANALYSIS

Department staff have reviewed this proposed program and letters of assurances from academic administrators to ensure that the degree program meets the State's performance measures outlined in C.R.S. §23-5-129.6. The program meets all performance measures set forth by the state.

IV. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Commission approve the name change from a Bachelor of Science in Sport and Exercise Science to a Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training submitted by University of Northern Colorado.

VI. SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Copies of all relevant statute and policy are on file in the Academic Affairs Office.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

C.R.S. §23-5-129 (6)(b)