TOPIC: PROPOSAL TO OFFER A MASTER OF SCIENCE IN

MODERN HUMAN ANATOMY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF

COLORADO DENVER ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

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I. <u>SUMMARY</u>

This consent item recommends approval of the University of Colorado Denver's (UCD) proposal to offer a Master of Science (MS) degree in Modern Human Anatomy.

II. <u>BACKGROUND</u>

The following is summarized from UCD's proposal:

The graduate school of the University of Colorado Denver, Anschutz Medical campus is proposing to offer a Master of Science degree in Modern Human Anatomy. It will be housed in the Department of Cell and Developmental Biology in the School of Medicine and has potential for future collaborations with the departments of radiology, surgery, orthopedics, neurosurgery, bioengineering, medicine, emergency medicine, anesthesiology, ophthalmology, pathology, physical therapy, and dental medicine. The program is designed as a two year master's degree for careers in anatomical research and education and will be a strong basis for further training for professional medical degrees.

ROLE AND MISSION SUPPORT

This degree supports the role and mission of UCD. The statutory mission states:

The health sciences center campus of the university of Colorado shall offer specialized baccalaureate, first-professional, master's, and doctoral degree programs in health-related disciplines and professions. It shall be affiliated with the university of Colorado hospital and other health care facilities that offer settings for education, clinical practice, and basic and applied research. It shall have exclusive authority in medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, and physical therapy. C.R.S. 23-20-101(d)

EVIDENCE OF DEMAND

The MS degree in Modern Human Anatomy will prepare graduates to pursue various professional and educational opportunities, depending on the student's interests, elective choices, and career ambitions. The uniqueness of this program is the opportunity for a student to complete a very specialized anatomical sciences education in a manner that addresses his or her individual goals and desired

outcomes. The program is not primarily designed to prepare students for further education, but for specific career opportunities. The primary focus of the program is for the students to move into the job market as life, physical, and social science occupations are projected to grow by almost 30% by 2018.

DUPLICATION

A two-year intensive master's program in anatomy does not exist in the western region. There are three universities in the state of Colorado that offer master's degree programs similar to the proposed degree:

- M.S. in Biomedical Sciences, Colorado State University
- M.S. in Biomedical Sciences, University of Northern Colorado
- M.S. in Biomedical Sciences, Regis University

III. STAFF ANALYSIS

Pursuant to Colorado Revised Statute 23-5-129 (6)(b), department staff finds that UCD's proposed Master of Science degree in Modern Human Anatomy is consistent with UCD's role and mission.

IV. <u>STAFF RECOMMENDATION</u>

Staff recommends that the Commission approve the University of Colorado Denver's proposal to offer a Master of Science degree in Modern Human Anatomy.

V. SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Copies of all relevant materials are on file in the Academic Affairs office and are available upon request.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

C.R.S. §23-5-129

- (6) While operating pursuant to a performance contract negotiated pursuant to this section, the governing board of a state institution of higher education:
- (b) Need not consult with nor obtain approval from the Colorado commission on higher education to create modify, or eliminate academic and vocational programs offered by the institution, so long as such creations, modifications, and eliminations are consistent with the institution's statutory role and mission. Institutions shall submit information to the department demonstrating that the creation or modification of an academic or career and technical education program is consistent with the institution's statutory role and mission. The Colorado commission on higher education shall have the authority to override the

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creation or modification of an academic or vocational program if the change made by the governing board is inconsistent with the institution's statutory role and mission.