

**TOPIC: PROPOSAL TO OFFER A BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN PROJECT MANAGEMENT AT COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY-GLOBAL CAMPUS**

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**I. SUMMARY**

This consent item recommends approval of Colorado State University-Global Campus's (CSU-Global) proposal to offer a Bachelor of Science in Project Management (BSPJM) degree.

**II. BACKGROUND**

CSU-Global's proposal for the Bachelor of Science in Project Management degree is summarized as follows, as excerpted from the institution's proposal:

*Because of its special relationship with the Colorado Community College System and numerous transfer agreements creating pipelines from Associate degrees to its four-year programs, CSU-Global is prepared to meet the demand for this bachelor's degree completion program (30 semester hours of credit in major courses towards a 120 credit undergraduate degree).*

*The Bachelor of Science in Project Management (BSPJM) program is designed to provide students with the opportunity to analyze and apply theories and concepts associated with organizations where resources are limited and time is critical. Learners will focus on the management of contracts and asset procurement; apply management of risk, project control, project monitoring, and earned value methods; and assess the costs and benefits of total quality management. Students will also examine and apply the soft skills associated with leadership, communication, and team building. The degree program will include an option for a specialization to expand knowledge in relevant areas like Strategic Communication, Business Administration, Finance, Accounting, Organizational Leadership, and Public and Non-Profit Management.*

**ROLE AND MISSION SUPPORT**

This degree supports the role and mission of CSU-Global, which reads, in part:

*CSU Global Campus is a baccalaureate and graduate on-line university with the mission in Colorado of offering upper division baccalaureate degree*

*completion programs for nontraditional students in partnership with the Colorado Community College system and selected master-level graduate programs. [C.R.S. 23-31.3-101]*

#### **EVIDENCE OF DEMAND**

There are currently only 11 online bachelor's degree project management programs for project management in the United States, all offered through private or proprietary institutions. Industry demand for the Bachelor of Science in Project Management (BSPJM) degree program has been evaluated through CSU-Global Campus contracted market research and through industry career growth projections. Demand projections and market research are listed below:

- Globally, it is estimated there will be 1.2 million project management positions by 2016 (Project Management Institute, 2010);
- Growth areas for project managers include energy and infrastructure, information technology, and healthcare (Project Management Institute, 2010);
- Project-oriented positions employ approximately 7.8 million people in the U.S. (Project Management Institute, 2006);
- Twenty percent of the world's GDP is being spent on project-based work (Project Management Institute, 2010);
- Project management professionals were identified as the single most important management job category in 2008 (Global Executive Survey, 2008);
- Project management related searches through Google Search are approximately 47,000 monthly (market research, 2011);
- Estimates show the number of yearly project management graduates will range from 61-414 students based on the top 15 producers (market research, 2011); and
- Undergraduate degrees in project management conferred in 2009 were 382 (market research, 2011).

#### **DUPLICATION**

Within the CSU System, there are currently no baccalaureate level programs exclusively oriented toward project management. CSU-Global's online program; therefore, the proposed program has sufficient market differentiation from current

System programs. There are no Bachelor of Science in Project Management programs offered by other Colorado public institutions.

#### **IV. STAFF ANALYSIS**

Pursuant to Colorado Revised Statute 23-5-129(6)(b), department staff finds that CSU-Global's proposed Bachelor of Science in Project Management (BSPJM) degree is consistent with the institution's role and mission.

#### **V. STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

**Approval of CSU-Global's proposal to offer a Bachelor of Science in Project Management (BSPJM) degree.**

#### **VI. 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 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.