

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

Academic and Student Affairs

AGENDA ITEM: 8 – E
DATE: December 5-7, 2017

SUBJECT

Summary of Programs Approved – 2017

CONTROLLING STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY

[BOR Policy 2:23](#) – Program and Curriculum Approval

[AAC Guidelines – Section 2: Programs and Curriculum \(2.4, 2.6-2.11\)](#)

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

The Academic Affairs Council maintains a list of pending programs available on the [Proposed Program Tracker Dashboard](#). The list includes current Intent to Plan, New Program, New Site, New Certificate, and New Specialization proposals and their status within the approval process. Programs listed as “new” are those appearing on the list for the first time at an AAC meeting (program proposals should appear on this list at least one AAC meeting prior to their appearance on an AAC agenda).

IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATION

The Board has approved 53 program-related proposals within the Regental system in 2017 (assuming all items on the December agenda receive Board approval). This includes 8 specializations, 18 certificates, 5 minors, 5 associate degrees, 4 bachelor’s degrees, 1 master’s degree, 3 site requests, and 9 intents to plan.

The evolution of system curriculum is evident in comparing program approval numbers from recent years:

- The Board approved 51 majors (associate, bachelor’s, master’s, doctoral) from 2014-2017; the Board approved 17 such majors from 2011-2013. The Board has approved 10 new associate degree programs in the last two years, more than the total approved in the preceding 15 years.
- The Board approved 49 certificates from 2015-2017; the Board approved 20 certificates from 2012-2014. The increase in certificates corresponds with system efforts to establish academic ladders to degree completion as well as to increase workforce demand for skill-based certificates. The addition of certificate programs typically do not involve the creation of new courses.

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- The Board approved 61 minors from 2012-2017; the Board approved 35 minors from 2007-2011. The increase in minors is in part attributable to institutions encouraging students to earn minors with their degree program (e.g., SDSU College of Arts & Sciences requires graduates to have a minor). The addition of new minors typically does not include the creation of many new courses.

ATTACHMENTS

None