

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

Committee on Academic and Student Affairs

AGENDA ITEM: III - A

DATE: October 14-15, 2009

SUBJECT: Intent to Plan: SDSU, M.S. Athletic Training

Executive Summary

South Dakota State University seeks Board authorization to develop a proposal for a Master's of Science in Athletic Training. The intent to plan is provided as Attachment I. SDSU offers an Athletic Training specialization within its M.S. in Health, Physical Education and Recreation. The University wants to change to a separate degree due accreditation standards. SDSU does not intend to request new State resources.

1. University Mission

The statutory mission of South Dakota State University is provided in SDCL 13-58-1:

Designated as South Dakota's land-grant university, South Dakota State University, formerly the state college of agriculture and mechanical arts, located at Brookings, in Brookings county,

(Continued)

RECOMMENDED ACTION OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Authorize South Dakota State University to develop a proposal for a Master's of Science in Athletic Training with the following conditions:

1. The University will not request new State resources, or a special discipline fee of more than \$250 per semester (FY10 rate), or additional facilities to develop, implement, or maintain the proposed program. The program proposal will identify the sources and amounts of all funds needed to operate the program and the impact of reallocations on existing programs.
2. The University will research existing curricula, consult with experts concerning the curriculum and provide assurance in the proposal that the program is consistent with current national standards and with the needs of employers.
3. The proposal will define the specific knowledge, skills, and competencies to be acquired through the program and demonstrate how each will be obtained in the curriculum.
4. The proposal will identify the specific measures to be used to determine whether individual students have attained the expected knowledge, skills, and competencies and the consequences for students who do not achieve at the expected levels.

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shall be under the control of the Board of Regents and shall provide undergraduate and graduate programs of instruction in the liberal arts and sciences and professional education in agriculture, education, engineering, home economics, nursing and pharmacy, and other courses or programs as the board of regents may determine.

Board Policy 1:10:2 South Dakota State University Mission Statement identifies the degrees authorized for the University.

SDSU now offers an M.S. in Health, Physical Education and Recreation with a specialization in Athletic Training. As explained in the Attachment, the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education requires that Athletic Training be defined as a major and by 2014 obtain a degree designation. The intent to plan is the first step toward a new degree. SDSU does not intend to change its existing curriculum when it develops the proposal for the new degree.

2. Related Programs within the System

There are no related programs in the regental system.

3. State Initiatives and Workforce Development

An M.S. in Athletic Training would support the Governor's 2010 Education Initiative (*Achieve the national average of people with graduate degrees*). The South Dakota Department of Labor's estimates and projections for athletic trainers are provided below.

South Dakota Occupational Projections
2006-2016

SOC* Code	29-9091
Occupational Title	Athletic Trainers
2006 Base Number of Jobs	90
2016 Projected Number of Jobs	105
2006-2016 Annual Averages	
Percent Change	16.7%
Jobs Due to Growth	2
Jobs Due to Replacement	2
Total Average Annual Demand	4

Source: SD DOL Labor Market Information Center web site

<http://www.state.sd.us/dol/lmic/menuprojections.htm>

Accessed September 30, 2009.

4. Off-Campus and Distance Delivery

The University does not intend to request authorization to offer the program at any off-campus site or by distance delivery.

5. Resources

SDSU does not intend to request new state resources. The University intends to request that a fee of \$250.00 per semester be charged to students in the program.

In April 2009 the Board approved an Athletic Training special discipline fee of \$250 per semester. This explanation was provided in the agenda materials:

SDSU requests implementation of a new Athletic Training Special Discipline Fee. This fee request is necessary to meet the expenses of both the bachelor's and masters levels at South Dakota State University, which have recently received accreditation. In the accrediting report, the accrediting agency Commission Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE), identified future needs to maintain on-going standards. A discipline fee is necessary to offset both one-time and recurring expenses to maintain accreditation standards as per the accrediting agency, Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAAHEP). Below are some of the expenses to achieve and maintain accreditation standards:

<i>Updating and calibrating of equipment – annual</i>	<i>\$5,000</i>
<i>Laboratory supplies and consumables – annual</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>
<i>Travel Expenses (10 clinical sites – 2 day visit per site) – annual</i>	<i>\$4,000</i>

(Board Minutes, 2009 April 2-3, pp. 601-602)

**South Dakota Board of Regents
Intent to Plan for a Master of Science in Athletic Training (MSAT)**

Use this form to request authorization to plan a new baccalaureate major, a new associate degree program, or a new graduate program. The Executive Director or the Board may request additional information.

UNIVERSITY:	South Dakota State University
DEGREE(S) AND TITLE OF PROGRAM:	Master of Science in Athletic Training
INTENDED DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION:	Fall 2010

University Approval

To the Board and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this intent to plan, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.

President of the University

Date

After approval by the President, a signed copy of the proposal should be transmitted to the Executive Director. Only after Executive Director review should the proposal be posted on the university web site and the Board staff and the other universities notified of the URL.

1. What is the general nature of the proposed program? What is the expected demand for graduates in South Dakota? What is the need for the proposed program?

General Nature of the Proposed Program:

South Dakota State University requests authorization to develop a proposal for a Masters of Science in Athletic Training. The purpose of making the request is to meet the requirement of the accrediting agency for athletic training education, the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE). This requirement states that athletic training education programs must currently be defined as a major at the institution, and by 2014, obtain a degree designation. This requirement is prompted by the desire of the profession to be recognized as a healthcare discipline rather than a sub-discipline under another professional area. Athletic training is benchmarked against other health professions such as nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and pharmacy. Substantial changes in curriculum, accreditation, credentialing, and licensing have occurred over the last 10-15 years to strengthen the preparation and accountability of entry-level athletic training practitioners. The athletic training curriculum at SDSU has adapted to meet these challenges.

Background and Supporting Information

South Dakota State University currently offers a Master of Science in Health, Physical Education, and Recreation (MSHPER). Under this degree, SDSU offers a specialization in Athletic Training and two emphasis areas: Sport Pedagogy and Sport Science. The specialization in Athletic Training received Board of Regents approval to seek accreditation in 2005, and achieved initial accreditation from the CAATE in August 2008. However, to maintain continuing compliance with standards set by the CAATE, the athletic training education program

is seeking approval to move the entry-level graduate athletic training specialization from underneath the MSHPER degree umbrella, and re-designate the existing curriculum as a Master of Science in Athletic Training (MSAT). The MSHPER with the Sport Pedagogy and Sport Science emphasis areas would remain in place.

Similar to the currently established MSHPER: Specialization Athletic Training, the MSAT will continue to provide the appropriate coursework and clinical experiences necessary to challenge the Board of Certification (BOC) examination, meet state licensure requirements, and prepare graduates for entry-level practice as confident and competent athletic trainers (ATs). The MSAT curriculum will not change from the current requirement of 44 credits required of the MSHPER: Specialization in Athletic Training, and will continue to satisfy the requirements established by the CAATE.

The desire to move the entry-level graduate athletic training specialization from underneath the MSHPER degree umbrella, and re-designate the existing curriculum as a Master of Science in Athletic Training (MSAT), stems from the Standards for the Accreditation of Entry-Level Athletic Training Education Programs as outlined by the CAATE. The CAATE has provided a succinct interpretation of these standards:

“the educational content required of an entry-level athletic training educational program, as defined by the NATA 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 as an academic major...**academic programs are required to offer academic majors in Athletic Training.**”

Upon review of the most recent Annual Report submitted by the SDSU ATEP, the CAATE noted that the degree SDSU listed was a “Masters of Science in Health, Physical Education, and Recreation, specialization in athletic training” and that the provided documentation indicated that “athletic training is a specialized area within the broad HPER major. When compared to other allied health programs at the institution, it was found that Nursing students are awarded the Masters of Science in Nursing...Transcripts reflect “Major: Health, Physical Education, and Recreation: Specialization Athletic Training.” Since the CAATE is not recognizing the Athletic Training specialization as a major, the only recourse is to request a degree designation.

The CAATE standards suggest benchmarking athletic training education programs against other health-related education programs within an institution. Similar accredited programs at SDSU that set standards for entry-level practice in health-related fields at the graduate level include the Master of Science in Counseling and Human Resource Development (MSCHRD), accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP), and the Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD), accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE). The Master of Science in Nursing is awarded to registered nurses who complete the professional graduate degree program in nursing. Therefore, the Master of Science in Nursing is not comparable to the MSHPER: Specialization Athletic Training, as students in the graduate athletic training education program are not certified or licensed for entry.

South Dakota State University

Intent to Plan: Master of Science in Athletic Training (MSAT)

Expected Demand for Graduates in South Dakota: Since 2001, the number of licensed athletic trainers employed in South Dakota has risen 32%. Statistics provided at the 2006 Healthcare Workforce Summit indicate that the number of certified athletic trainers in South Dakota will rise another 20% by 2012. As noted by the South Dakota Department of Health, the strong majority of counties in South Dakota exist as federally-designated health professional shortage and medically underserved areas. Furthermore, between the years of 2004-2014, the projected need for healthcare providers throughout the State will increase 30%. The demand for healthcare providers is also consistent with regional and national statistics. The Master of Science in Athletic Training will assist in addressing this need by helping to reverse the trend of decreasing availability of healthcare workers in South Dakota.

Need for the Proposed Program: Currently there are only 19 CAATE accredited entry-level master's programs nationwide. Regionally there are two programs with a third program in the development stage. SDSU currently offers the only entry-level master's program in the state of South Dakota, and is the only school in the BOR system that is authorized to deliver athletic training. The importance of health care in South Dakota is evident in the efforts of the South Dakota Healthcare Workforce Summit. As noted by the committees participating in this Summit, the number of students entering the healthcare workforce is declining. Expanding the student recruiting base and improving healthcare education accessibility have been proposed as solutions to this problem. A MSAT would help address this need while improving healthcare for South Dakotans and individuals in the surrounding region.

Support for State Initiatives: This degree program supports the 2010 Education Initiative in several ways. In order to fully meet the needs of the economy and citizens of the state of South Dakota, programs offering the opportunity to complete graduate degrees must exist. This is especially imperative in the health professions for South Dakota, which is seeing fewer students entering the health care workforce. The currently-existing graduate athletic training education program provides this opportunity. Furthermore, this program supports Objective 3B: *Expand the number of citizens with postsecondary education and training by 20 percent, specifically the charge to double the number of persons ages 25 and older engaged in postsecondary education.* Finally, this program supports the long-term needs of the South Dakota economy by improving access to quality health care education. The program offers students an alternative opportunity to supplement a bachelor's degree with an entry-level graduate degree in athletic training.

2. What is the relationship of the proposed program to the University's mission as provided in South Dakota statute and Board of Regents Policy?

The statutory mission of South Dakota State University is provided in SDCL 13-58-1:

Designated as South Dakota's land-grant university, South Dakota State University, formerly the state college of agriculture and mechanical arts, shall be under the control of the Board of Regents and shall provide undergraduate and graduate programs of instruction in the liberal arts and science and professional education in agriculture, education, engineering, home economics, nursing and pharmacy, and other course or programs as the Board of Regents may determine.

South Dakota State University

Intent to Plan: Master of Science in Athletic Training (MSAT)

As South Dakota's land-grant university, SDSU maintains a critical role in improving the quality of life for the citizens of the state. The mission of SDSU was founded on the premise that the needs of South Dakota should be met through access to quality undergraduate and graduate education in the liberal arts and sciences, as well as professional education in several areas including healthcare. The current accredited entry level graduate Athletic Training Education Program stands committed to the mission of SDSU by providing access to quality education and meeting the health care needs of the state's population. Achieving the degree designation of Master of Science in Athletic Training would allow SDSU to remain compliant with the CAATE standards and therefore continue to educate students who are eligible to challenge the BOC examination and are prepared to provide a high level of quality healthcare both locally and nationally.

3. Are there any related programs in the regental system? If there are related programs, why should the proposed program be added? If there are no related programs within the system, enter "None."

None.

4. Are there related programs at public colleges and universities in Minnesota, North Dakota, Montana, and Wyoming?¹ If there are related programs in these states list below under each state and explain why the proposed program is needed in South Dakota. If there are no related programs in a state, enter "None" for that state.

Minnesota - There are no current entry-level graduate programs in Minnesota, however, St. Scholastica in Duluth has started accepting students under the degree title of Master of Arts in Athletic Training and will be seeking CAATE accreditation in spring 2011.

North Dakota - North Dakota State University

Montana - Montana State University – Billings

Wyoming - None.

5. Are students expected to be new to the university or redirected from other programs? How many majors are expected in the first years of the program? How many graduates are expected?

Students entering the Master of Science in Athletic Training would be: 1) students new to South Dakota State University, either from South Dakota Higher Education Universities or Colleges/Universities outside of the state of South Dakota, or 2) SDSU bachelor degree graduates but new to the graduate school. When the new Master of Science in Athletic Training degree receives Board of Regents approval, students enrolled in the MSHPER, Specialization in

¹ This question addresses opportunities available through Minnesota Reciprocity and the Western Undergraduate Exchange in adjacent states. List only programs at the same degree level as the proposed program. For example, if the proposed program is a baccalaureate major, then list only related baccalaureate majors in the other states and do not include associate or graduate programs.

South Dakota State University

Intent to Plan: Master of Science in Athletic Training (MSAT)

Athletic Training would be re-directed into the newly designated Master of Science in Athletic Training.

Regarding enrollment, with the implementation of the entry-level graduate program in athletic training in 2005, the graduate athletic training education program made a concerted effort to control its growth until the CAATE accreditation was solidified. The enrollment goal for the initial years of the MSAT is projected to be slightly higher at approximately 7-9 students per year. The University does not anticipate reaching this goal to be problematic, given the expressed interest received from potential students. The main guide and limitation in developing estimated enrollments for the MSAT is the number of placements into the field experience which is a major component of athletic training clinical education. The maximum placement count in order to meet supervision and placement guidelines set by the CAATE is currently 18 students per year. The field experience placement for students in the MSAT overlaps with the placement of students in the CAATE accredited undergraduate Athletic Training Education Program. As the MSAT grows, additional clinical sites will be pursued. Approximately 7-9 students will graduate from this program each year.

6. Does the university intend to seek authorization to deliver this entire program at any off-campus locations? If yes, enter location(s) and intended start date(s). Does the university intend to seek authorization to deliver this entire program by distance technology? If yes, identify delivery method(s) and intended start date(s).

Off-campus	No
Distance delivery	No

7. What are the University's plans for obtaining the resources needed to implement the program? Indicate "yes" or "no" in the columns below.

	Development/Start-up	Long-term Operation
Reallocate existing resources	Yes	Yes
Apply for external resources	No	No
Ask Board to seek new State resources	No	No
Ask Board to approve new or increased student fee	**Yes	**Yes

** The graduate athletic training education program is requesting a new fee in the amount of \$250.00 per student per semester. The revenue from the new fee will be allocated toward various aspects of the athletic training education program including, annual accreditation costs.

8. Curriculum Example: Provide (as Appendix A) the curriculum of a similar program at another college or university. The Appendix should provide the required and elective courses in the program. Catalog pages or web materials may be used. Identify the college or university and explain why the program may be used as one model when the proposed program is developed.

South Dakota State University**Intent to Plan: Master of Science in Athletic Training (MSAT)**

The curriculum submitted is currently in place and has been since 2005; the University is not seeking any curriculum changes with this request. The plan of study for the current SDSU entry-level graduate Athletic Training Education Program is provided as Appendix A.

The current curriculum has been designed to meet the competency and proficiency guidelines set forth by the CAATE. The athletic training graduate program currently offers two options related to the research portion of a graduate program: Plan A – Thesis and Plan B: Research Paper. Both options are 44 credits, which exceeds the minimum recommendation for a degree program (which is 36).

South Dakota State University
Intent to Plan: Master of Science in Athletic Training (MSAT)

Appendix A
 South Dakota State University
 M.S. in Health, Physical Education, and Recreation (MSHPER),
 Specialization in Athletic Training

Option A: Thesis (Total Credits = 44)

Semester 1 (Fall)			Semester 2 (Spring)		
Course	Cr	GR	Course	Cr	GR
AT 541: Athletic Training Techniques I	3		AT 542: Athletic Training Techniques II	3	
AT 554: Athletic Injury Assessment I: Lower Extremities	2		AT 556: Athletic Injury Assessment II: Upper Extremities	2	
<i>HPER 795: Practicum S01 (Lower Ext Assess Lab)</i>	1		<i>HPER 795: Practicum S01 (Upper Ext Assess Lab)</i>	1	
HPER 780: Introduction to Graduate Study and Research	1		AT 564: Therapeutic Modalities	2	
			<i>HPER 795: Practicum S02 (Modalities Lab)</i>	1	
PE 750: Advanced Exercise Physiology	3		HPER 783: Research Methods in HPER	3	
			<i>** PE 550: Clinical Exercise Physiology</i>	3	
Semester Total	10		Semester Total	12	

** For students who have not completed Nurs 323, they may opt to take PE 550: Clinical Exercise Physiology.

Summer		
Course	Cr	GR
PE 755: Applied Exercise Physiology (June)	3	
HPER 795: Practicum - Fall Clinical Experience (Aug)	1	
Summer Total	4	

Semester 3 (Fall)			Semester 4 (Spring)		
Course	Cr	GR	Course	Cr	GR
AT 543: Athletic Training Techniques III	3		AT 544: Athletic Training Techniques IV	3	
AT 574: Rehabilitation of Athletic Injuries	2		HPER 690: Seminar	2	
<i>HPER 795: Practicum (Rehabilitation Lab)</i>	1		HPER 798: Thesis	3	
PE 751: Laboratory Techniques in Exercise Physiology	2				
HPER 798: Thesis	2				
Semester Total	10		Semester Total	8	

Option B: Research Paper/Design Option (Total Credits = 44)

Semester 1 (Fall)			Semester 2 (Spring)		
Course	Cr	GR	Course	Cr	GR
AT 541: Athletic Training Techniques I	3		AT 542: Athletic Training Techniques II	3	
AT 554: Athletic Injury Assessment I: Lower Extremities	2		AT 556: Athletic Injury Assessment II: Upper Extremities	2	
<i>HPER 795: Practicum S01 (Lower Ext Assess Lab)</i>	1		<i>HPER 795: Practicum S01 (Upper Ext Assess Lab)</i>	1	
HPER 780: Introduction to Graduate Study and Research	1		AT 564: Therapeutic Modalities	2	
			<i>HPER 795: Practicum S02 (Modalities Lab)</i>	1	
PE 750: Advanced Exercise Physiology	3		HPER 783: Research Methods in HPER	3	
			<i>** PE 550: Clinical Exercise Physiology</i>	3	
Semester Total	10		Semester Total	12	

**** For students who have not completed Nurs 323, they may opt to take PE 550: Clinical Exercise Physiology.**

Summer		
Course	Cr	GR
PE 755: Applied Exercise Physiology - June	3	
HPER 795: Practicum - Fall Clinical Experience (Aug)	1	
HPER 788: Individual Research and Study in HPER	3	
HPER 796: Field Experience	2	
Summer Total	9	

Semester 3 (Fall)			Semester 4 (Spring)		
Course	Cr	GR	Course	Cr	GR
AT 543: Athletic Training Techniques III	3		AT 544: Athletic Training Techniques IV	3	
AT 574: Rehabilitation of Athletic Injuries	2		HPER 690: Seminar	2	
<i>HPER 795: Practicum (Rehabilitation Lab)</i>	1				
PE 751: Laboratory Techniques in Exercise Physiology	2				
Semester Total	8		Semester Total	5	