



February 17, 2010

To:Regents' Advisory Committee on Graduate Study (RACGS)
From: ...Karen Hopper Wruck, Professor and Associate Dean of Graduate Programs,
.....Fisher College of Business, The Ohio State University
Re:Delivery of Fisher/OSU SMB Degree Off-Campus

The Full Planning Proposal for the Specialized Masters in Business (SMB) offered by the Fisher College of Business, The Ohio State University, was presented to RACGS and approved in December 2009. Formal approval by the Board of Regents followed in January 2010. In that proposal, it was stated:

It is also possible that for employers willing to sponsor a sufficient number of current employees, some courses could be offered for credit on location at that company, allowing individuals to earn some credit toward the degree on-site. (page 5, under Prospective Enrollment).

The purpose of this letter is to notify RACGS of our intent to offer the courses of the SMB Degree, Marketing Track at an off-campus corporate site. Specifically, we will be offering the degree at the headquarters of Nationwide Insurance Company, in downtown Columbus, beginning as soon as proper notification and approval of such notification can be processed. Details of this offering follow below.

The program will be offered in the exact form put forward in the SMB degree proposal. In other words, there will be no (0%) changes to the curriculum. All classes will be delivered in person and on-site at Nationwide by the same faculty who would be called upon to deliver these classes on campus. Enrollment in these classes, however, will be limited to employees of Nationwide who apply and qualify for admission to the SMB Degree's Marketing Track.

The application process and admission standards for Nationwide employees seeking the SMB Degree, Marketing Track, will be identical to that which we require of applicants for the on-campus version of the SMB Degree, Marketing Track. More specifically, prospective students will fill out an application, take the appropriate standardized test or tests, write the appropriate essays and provide letters of recommendation, as would any applicant. Their files will be assessed by our admissions team in a way that will be consistent with our assessment of on-campus SMB applicants.

As is our approved on-campus SMB, the off-campus delivery of the degree is consistent with our role and missions, and does not impact our accreditation standards or negatively impact budget priorities. There is no incremental infrastructure requirement and there are no new or alternative delivery mechanisms being employed, so this off-site delivery poses no issues in these areas. The standards of academic integrity, course structure, and the nature of course assignments and assessment of students will be the same as our on-campus SMB. Students will be provided with an opportunity to assess each course with a survey instrument as they are with all our on-campus courses. The on-site SMB will also be administered by Fisher College staff, who will provide student support services and an overall assessment of the student experience, as is the case with our on-campus programs. Taken together, the latter two will ensure student satisfaction with the on-site SMB.

From: [Elliot Slotnick](#)
To: [Karen Hopper Wruck](#)
Cc: [Stephen Mangum](#); [Dena Myers](#); [Elliot Slotnick](#)
Subject: RE: SMB Off Campus Letter
Date: Wednesday, February 24, 2010 1:38:01 PM

Hi Karen,

The Curriculum Committee was fine with your letter...but would like to see it have some "signature" of sorts on it identifying the source. Perhaps you can just add your name and title in the routing area at the top of the letter? I'm going to get clearance from Randy to make sure that it doesn't need to be looked at by CAA (I hope not!) before I send it off to RACGS, and then we should be good to go in a short while...

Best,
elliott

-----Original Message-----

From: Karen Hopper Wruck [mailto:wruck_1@fisher.osu.edu]
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2010 4:17 PM
To: Elliot Slotnick
Cc: Stephen Mangum
Subject: SMB Off Campus Letter

Elliot:

Attached find a draft of the SMB Off Campus Letter for your comment. I followed the guidelines for approved degrees that will be offered at an off-campus site. I tried to address all the issues that were raised in the guidelines. Because we are not changing the content at all, are not using different faculty and are not evaluating students differently, it seems pretty straightforward. Let me know if you think changes should be made to the letter.

Best,

Karen

Graduate Council
March 15, 2010
226 University Hall
Meeting Minutes

Graduate Council Members Present:

Ana Azevedo, Enrico Bonello, Mark Bullimore (representing Karla Zadnik), Theresa Early, Ruth Peterson, Jim Phelan (chair), Harald Vaessin, John Sheridan, Danelle Wilbraham (representing Brian Gay)

Graduate School Staff Present: Shari Breckenridge, Patrick Osmer, Ann Salimbene, Elliot Slotnick, Tim Watson, Kathleen Wallace, Susan Reeser (recorder)

A. Approval of Minutes

- Professor Phelan called the meeting to order and asked for a review of the minutes from the February 15, 2010, Graduate Council meeting. The minutes were approved as submitted.

B. Business

1. University Fellowship competition

- Elliot reported that 606 Fellowship competition award letters of offer will be sent to prospective students on March 16. 105 fellowship letters awarding college-allocated fellowships will also be sent out. The number of fellowship offers being made is lower this year due to the higher number of acceptances in last year's competitions from college allocations.

2. Presidential Fellowship Matching Travel Award

- The Graduate School announced an awards program offering \$250 matching travel funds to graduate programs to offset the cost associated with Presidential Fellows presenting their research at domestic or international conferences during their fellowship tenure. Programs may be reimbursed up to \$250 per Presidential Fellow for documented travel expenses.
- The Department of English questioned whether they needed to match the Graduate School's funds for a student who had already used \$250 on a previous trip. Dean Osmer asked that the issue be addressed at a separate meeting to clarify the rules and process for administering the travel award.

3. Semester Conversion update

- Elliot reiterated that the Graduate School Semester Conversion Subcommittee had formed two workgroups. The group chaired by Robert Perry is continuing to review graduate associate issues along with tuition charges to grants, implementation of policies, and the challenges posed by the May Term. Elliot's group has mostly completed the "Nuts and Bolts" review of the rules and regulations, and revising the *Graduate School Handbook*.
- Elliot distributed two documents, a printout of the *Graduate School Handbook* and an annotation of the *Handbook* rules listed by section and number along with the corresponding proposed changes to the rules and policies necessitated by semester conversion.

- Elliot went over each of the rule changes with Council and discussed the reasons behind the changes and answered questions and concerns. The sections that were reviewed were: admission, registration and scheduling, course credit, course marks, and point-hour ratio, masters and doctoral degree programs. Due to time constraints, a continuation of rule/policy changes will be deferred to the next Council meeting.
- Many concerns still exist about the May Term such as number of credit hours allowed and the cost to students. The May Term will be further discussed at the next meeting.

D. Graduate Council Curriculum Committee Reports and Actions

– Theresa Early, Liaison

1. Proposal to establish a combined Bachelor's degree and Master's degree program in the Department of Physics

- The proposal was unanimously approved and will be forwarded to the Council on Academic Affairs for further processing.

2. Proposal for the Specialized Masters in Business (SMB) Degree, Marketing Track at an off-campus corporate site

- Professor Early explained the rationale behind the degree proposal and that the courses were being taught at Nationwide Insurance. Council members had many questions and expressed concern about the proposal and the process by which students were already enrolled in a program that hadn't yet been approved. The proposal was approved with two abstentions. It will be forwarded to the Council on Academic Affairs for further processing.

3. Proposal for the addition of the International Veterinary Public Health Topics BPM 693 course in Veterinary Public Health Specialization

- The proposal was unanimously approved and will be forwarded to the Council on Academic Affairs for further processing.

4. Proposal to add an optometry course to the Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Global Health

- The proposal was unanimously approved and will be forwarded to the Council on Academic Affairs for further processing.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.