



BOARD OF REGENTS

SUMMARY OF ITEM FOR ACTION, INFORMATION OR DISCUSSION

TOPIC: Towson University: Master of Science and Post-baccalaureate Certificate in Supply Chain Management

COMMITTEE: Education Policy

DATE OF COMMITTEE MEETING: November 11, 2010

SUMMARY: The proposed post-baccalaureate certificate program in Supply Chain Management will provide students with both a conceptual and pragmatic understanding of general supply chain management that is applicable to any industry – transportation, health care, technology, government agencies, telecommunication, or distribution firms. Specifically, graduates will be able to identify ways in which supply chain management creates value for customers and investors; understand major decisions faced in logistics, and explain how these decisions support the physical and information flows in a supply chain; understand different supply chain risk management strategies in today’s uncertain world; be familiar with various applications of Supply Chain Information Technology and the processes that they enable; and develop an understanding of Supply Chain Management and the different ways it contributes to competitive advantage, wealth as well as the advancement of society.

In addition to the above learning objectives, the Master of Science program in Supply Chain Management will further reinforce the underlying principles in sufficient depth so that students can develop careers in diverse fields such as supply chain planning, project/program management, process management, inventory management, demand management, sourcing/procurement management, logistics management, quality management, etc. Specifically, graduates will develop more analytical skills so that they can think critically in order to successfully apply their knowledge and technical expertise to the solution of real business problems; graduates can make comprehensive strategic, tactical and operations decisions in a complex dynamic supply chain. Furthermore, graduates will develop cross-functional skills to integrate and coordinate the supply chain.

The demand for graduate level programs is projected to grow as a result of workforce needs related to BRAC. While there exist some related programs in management with some non-core courses in supply chain management, and one post-baccalaureate certificate in this discipline, none of the other programs considers an integrated supply chain approach and all focus only on one area such as procurement or transportation. In contrast, this proposed program integrates all six fundamental areas into the core requirement, including logistics, distribution, procurement, operations, technologies and project management.

ALTERNATIVE(S): The Regents may not approve the program or may request further information.

FISCAL IMPACT: No additional funding is necessary. The program will be supported through tuition, grants, and, as necessary, reallocated funds.

CHANCELLOR'S RECOMMENDATION: That the Committee on Education Policy recommend that the Board of Regents approve the proposal from Towson University to offer the Master of Science and Post-baccalaureate Certificate in Supply Chain Management.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Approval.

DATE: November 11, 2010

BOARD ACTION:

DATE:

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