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UTAH SYSTEM OF
HIGHER EDUCATION

Building a Stronger State of Minds

AGENDA

MEETING OF THE
UTAH STATE BOARD OF REGENTS
TO BE HELD AT
UNIVERSITY OF UTAH, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
OLPIN STUDENT UNION

June 8, 2007

Utah State Board of Regents
Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education
Board of Regents Building, The Gateway
60 South 400 West
Salt Lake City, Utah 84101-1284

May 3, 2007

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Regents

FROM: Richard E. Kendell

SUBJECT: Information Calendar: Academic, Career and Technical Education, and Student Success Programs Committee

The following requests have been submitted for consideration by the Regents on the Information Calendar of the Programs Committee.

A. Utah State University

**i. Proposal to Offer a New Specialization in Speech-Language Pathology
Within the PhD Program in Disability Disciplines**

Request: Utah State University requests approval to offer a new specialization in Speech-Language Pathology within the existing Disability Disciplines PhD Program. The Disability Disciplines Doctoral Program is an interdepartmental program administered by the Department of Special Education and Rehabilitation and coordinated by an interdepartmental committee chaired by Dr. Timothy Slocum. Participating departments and centers include the Department of Special Education and Rehabilitation, the Center for Persons with Disabilities, and the Department of Communicative Disorders and Deaf Education. The program currently has four specializations: (a) Special Education, (b) Applied Behavior Analysis with Individuals with Disabilities, (c) Rehabilitation Counseling, and (d) Disabilities Studies. The specializations within the Disability Disciplines program share a common core of courses, seminars, and internships and a common professional interest in disciplines that serve individuals with disabilities.

This proposal seeks authorization to add a new specialization in Speech-Language Pathology. Students selecting this specialization, in addition to completing the common core courses, shared with other specializations within the degree, will receive specialized training and conduct research related to children and adults who present communication disorders. The complete program requires a minimum of 64 credits beyond the Masters Degree in Communicative Disorders.

Need: The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association has documented a shortage in doctoral level Speech-Language Pathologists. In a report entitled, "Crisis for the discipline," the Joint Ad Hoc Committee on the Shortage of PhD Students and Faculty in Communication Sciences and Disorders concluded that, "over the next 15 years the shortage of PhD faculty is likely to become so severe as to require massive

restructuring of the field, with many program closures and reductions in the proportion of faculty holding the PhD." Data from the Joint Ad Hoc Committee's survey indicate that the number of students enrolling in doctoral programs in Speech-Language Pathology falls far short of the number of faculty who are or will be retiring. Although there are more than 300 academic speech-language programs in the nation, only 62 of them prepare PhDs and fewer than 20 of those programs prepare the vast majority of future faculty members in the discipline. There is a strong need for more doctoral programs in Speech-Language Pathology.

The current structure of the PhD program in Disabilities Disciplines promotes the study of issues of disabilities from multiple perspectives across specific categories of disabilities. It explicitly recognizes the disciplines of special education, behavior analysis, rehabilitation counseling, and disabilities studies. The addition of speech-language pathology will set the stage for further growth because it will broaden the scope of the program to include an important disability-related discipline that does not fit within the current specializations. Speech-Language Pathology is a well-established discipline nationally.

There are numerous advantages to this additional specialization. First, it will allow USU to provide leadership training in five professional disciplines that are in need of leadership personnel. Second, it will increase the capacity for research, training, service, and grant development in a critical area of the College of Education and Human Services. Third, the addition of the doctoral specialty area will have substantial benefit for recruiting new faculty. Fourth, it will increase the efficiency of staffing current doctoral courses in special education which currently often operate somewhat under capacity. Fifth and finally, increasing doctoral training enhances the national reputation of Utah State University.

Institutional Impact: The proposed addition of a Speech-Language Pathology specialization in Disability Disciplines will create minimal new demands on institutional resources. The new specialization is an addition to existing activities. The administrative infrastructure of the Disabilities Disciplines doctoral program is already in place in the Department of Special Education and Rehabilitation. Many of the core courses and seminars are already being offered in the existing Disabilities Disciplines doctoral program and in the College of Education and Human Services Interdepartmental Doctoral Program. Many special education doctoral classes are currently under enrolled and have unused capacity which can beneficially be filled by students in the new Speech-Language Pathology specialization. A number of the proposed Speech-Language Pathology specialization courses are already taught regularly and could accommodate additional students. Some seminars may need to be expanded in scope so that they will be sufficiently broad to serve students in the new specialization.

This addition will not require additional faculty. Members of the graduate faculty in Communicative Disorders and Deaf Education already participate in the Disability Disciplines program. These faculty members include Dr. Kim Corbin-Lewis, Dr. Beth Foley, Dr. Sonia Manual-Dupont, and Dr. Julie Wolter. In addition, the department added two new full-time PhD faculty lines this fall. Dr. Ron Gillam is the Raymond L. and Eloise H. Lillywhite Professor of Communicative Disorders. Dr. Sandra Gillam is a tenured associate professor. Dr. Ron Gillam was the director of graduate studies in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at the University of Texas at Austin. He has served as the chair or co-chair of 7 doctoral committees and has participated on 16 other doctoral committees. No additional faculty lines are needed for this new specialization.

The addition of this program will set the stage for possible expansion of enrollment. Thus, an important positive impact of the proposed specialization is the potential expansion of doctoral studies at USU.

However, growth in this new program will be controlled to assure that it does not outstrip capacity in the new specialization and in the program as a whole.

Finances: This Speech-Language Pathology specialization program will not require new finances. Two new faculty members who specialize in language disorders in children have joined the COMD faculty this year. Much of the core coursework already exists and is being offered regularly under the current organization of the Disability Disciplines program. In addition, many of the specialization courses are currently offered in the Department of Communicative Disorders and Deaf Education. The two new faculty positions in COMD enable the department to expand their doctoral level course offerings.

ii. Consolidation of Existing Bachelor of Science Degrees

Request: Utah State University requests approval to consolidate all BS degrees offered by the Department of Animal, Dairy and Veterinary Sciences into a single degree with the name: Bachelors of Science in Animal, Dairy and Veterinary Sciences, with emphases in (1) Animal & Dairy Science; (2) Bioveterinary Science; (3) Biotechnology, and (4) Equine Science and Management. effective Fall 2007.

Need: As part of its periodic internal review of undergraduate programs, the ADVS Department Curriculum Committee identified potential efficiencies by consolidation of the three existing BS degrees. These efficiencies include flexibility for students, particularly those who choose to make changes in their program preference within the department. A similar conclusion was reached by the Cooperative States Research, Education and Extension Services (CSREES) Review Team that conducted a Comprehensive Review of the ADVS Department in November 2004.

Institutional Impact: There is no significant institutional impact expected as a result of the proposed consolidation of existing BS degree programs in the ADVS Department contained in this submission, on instructional programs, in affiliated departments, or existing administrative structures. Resource requirements related to faculty, physical facilities or equipment will remain unchanged. Students in the current programs of student will be allowed to complete their degrees whereas courses have not been altered or eliminated, merely sequenced differently.

Finances: There is no significant impact envisioned as a result of the proposed consolidation of existing BS degree programs in the ADVS Department contained in this submission on budgets, other programs or units within Utah State University.

1) Emphasis in Animal and Dairy Science

Request: Utah State University requests approval to create an emphasis in Animal and Dairy Science within the requested combined Bachelor of Science degree, effective Fall 2007. The emphasis in Animal and Dairy Science has the same core and depth as the currently offered Bachelors Degree in Animal Science (science option) and the Bachelors Degree in Dairy Science (science option).

Students enrolled in the Animal and Dairy Science emphasis will complete 14 credits common to all four of the emphases recommended in this proposal. These common 14 credits included foundation coursework in animal anatomy, physiology, health, feeding systems, and the professional orientation and research