

New Program Proposal
Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice Management
Lander University

Summary

Lander University requests approval to offer an on-line program leading to the Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice Management to be implemented in Fall, 2006.

The proposal was approved by the Lander Board of Trustees on February 3, 2006, and submitted for Commission review on February 9, 2006. The proposal was reviewed without substantive comment by the Advisory Committee on Academic Programs (ACAP) at its meeting on March 14, 2006. It did receive a strong statement of support from the Technical System representative to the committee.

The purpose of the program is to offer an on-line program that will enable law enforcement officers holding an associates degree to complete a baccalaureate degree in Criminal Justice Management. It will also afford expanded opportunities for articulation with programs in the technical colleges, as the associates prepared students in large will be coming from those institutions.

According to the proposal, the need for this program rests on the large number of the state's 10,000 law enforcement officers who do not hold a baccalaureate degree and on the need for extremely flexible course scheduling to meet the needs of those officers in a baccalaureate program. The proposed program has strong support from the South Carolina Law Enforcement Officer's Association (SCLEOA), many of whose members need such a program for advancement in their careers, and from the Greenwood County Sheriff.

Students entering the proposed program will be required to have an Associate's degree and at least two years experience in law enforcement or be employed as a law enforcement officer while in the program. The program will consist of 121 credit hours, including those hours which transfer from the Associate's degree. The courses will include General Education (46-52 credit hours, all except the sciences available on-line), Criminal Justice Management (35 credit hours, all available on-line), and electives (10-16 credit hours, all available on-line). Of these courses, 8 (24 credit hours) would be new Criminal Justice Management courses added to the catalogue for this program. The new courses are: CJM 300 Risk Management and Liability Issues, CJM 305 Principles of Research, CJM 401 Ethics in Criminal Justice, CJM 402 Human Resource Management in Public Agencies, CJM 403 Bioterrorism Issues in Law Enforcement, CJM 408 Incident Command, CJM 410 Criminal Justice Policy Analysis, and CJM 421 Mediation and

Negotiation. The exact number of hours taken at Lander will depend on the number and type of courses taken in a student's Associate's degree.

The Citadel, USC-Columbia, South Carolina State, and USC-Upstate offer Criminal Justice baccalaureate degrees. In addition, eight private colleges, including Anderson College, offer similar degrees. According to the proposal, none of these offer the amount of flexibility included in the on-line program. On-line programs in Criminal Justice are offered by The University of Phoenix and Idaho State University. The proposal states that affordability and differing focus differentiate the proposed program from these programs, with the Lander program being more affordable.

The proposed program does not require the addition of new faculty in its first three years. In Year Four, one faculty member (1 FTE) will be added. In the first three years of the program, increasing student enrollment and course demands will be handled through "load-shifting" with the course loads of the four existing faculty. In Year Four, with the addition of the new faculty member, there will be 2.5 FTE faculty dedicated to the program. According to the proposal, the technical resources to support an on-line program are currently in place.

Enrollment in Year One is estimated at 25 headcount (7.8 FTE) students, and is projected to grow to 85 headcount (35.5 FTE) students in year five. If the enrollment projections are met, the program will meet current CHE program productivity standards.

There is no accrediting body for the proposed program and its graduates do not require licensing for employment.

There are no additional physical plant or equipment requirements for the proposed program. The institution's library has 1,498 titles in the area of criminology. In addition, it holds related government documents in hardcopy and electronic formats. The library also subscribes to electronic databases including *Academic Search Premier*, *Expanded Academic ASAP*, and *SocINDEX with Full Text*. The proposal states that special arrangements will be made to allow students in the proposed program to have the greatest possible access to the materials regardless of their ability to get to the campus. These arrangements include mailing hardcopy materials to students and allowing access to electronic materials through off-campus computers. The proposal budgets a total of \$2,600 over the first five years of the program to increase library holdings.

New costs for the program are estimated to begin at \$70,800 in the first year and increase to \$163,900 in the fifth year. Categories of costs over the first five years of the program's implementation include program administration (\$24,000), faculty salaries (\$519,000); Clerical/support personnel (\$37,500), library resources (\$2,600), and supplies and materials (\$2,500), and equipment (\$1,500). Estimated new costs for the proposed program during the first five years total \$563,100.

Shown below are the estimated Mission Resource Requirement (MRR) costs to the state and new costs not funded by the MRR associated with implementation of the proposed program in its first five years. Also shown are estimated revenues projected under the MRR and the Resource Allocation Plan as well as student tuition.

Year	Estimated MRR Cost for Proposed Program	Extraordinary (Non-MRR) Costs for Proposed Program	Total Costs	State Appropriation	Tuition	Total Revenue
Year 1	\$69,529		\$69,529	\$0	\$52,010	\$52,010
Year 2	\$111,425		\$111,425	35,265	\$84,044	\$119,309
Year 3	\$155,995		\$155,995	56,260	\$117,384	\$173,644
Year 4	\$254,049		\$254,049	78,866	\$191,426	\$270,292
Year 5	\$316,447		\$316,447	128,345	\$238,102	\$366,447

These data demonstrate that if Lander can meet projected student enrollment and contain costs as they are shown in the proposal, the program will cover new costs with revenues it generates by the second year.

In summary, Lander University proposes to offer a program leading to the Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice Management to begin in Fall 2006. The program is designed to be offered on-line and is intended to fulfill the need of active duty law enforcement officers holding an Associate's degree to complete a baccalaureate degree. The proposed program has strong support from the SCLEOA and from the technical college system.

Recommendation

The staff recommends that the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing commend favorably to the Commission approval of the proposed program leading to a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice Management at Lander University to begin in Fall 2006, provided that no "unique cost" or other special state funding be required or requested.