

**THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN – FLINT
REGENTS COMUNICATION**

Approved by the Regents
February 15, 2007

ACTION REQUEST

SUBJECT: New Graduate Degree Program by the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Michigan-Flint

ACTION REQUESTED: Approval to offer a new Master of Arts in English through the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Michigan-Flint

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 1, 2007

The College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Michigan-Flint (UM-Flint) proposes to offer a Master of Arts Degree in English. The proposed graduate program is designed to address the needs of in-service teachers and other interested working professionals and students residing within the University of Michigan-Flint service region. The proposed program responds to relatively strong national, statewide, and regional demands. Nationally, graduate degrees conferred in English and closely related fields of study have consistently ranked among the top ten graduate degrees. Further, a comprehensive needs assessment study within Genesee County and five other Michigan counties delineates the need for the proposed graduate degree. The primary audience will be part-time students taking courses during evening hours and via online instruction, thereby providing access for our underserved constituents.

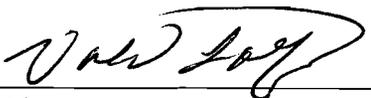
The proposed Master of Arts (MA) in English degree has been thoroughly reviewed and supported by the UM-Flint CAS faculty, Graduate Programs Committee, Academic Affairs Advisory Committee, Budget Priorities and Chancellor's Advisory Committee, as well as the provost and chancellor. It has also been approved by the Presidents Council of the State Universities of Michigan.

The proposed program consists of 30 semester credit hours of graduate work, including components from all three areas in English: English-language literature, writing and rhetoric, and linguistics and language studies. The program design was chosen as a result of a comprehensive needs assessment survey and was designed to incorporate sound pedagogy with maximum potential for individualized program iteration. In addition to requiring foundation (core) courses and a range of courses from the constituent disciplines within English, the program will enable students to choose from a variety of individual scholarly experience options.

Pending approval of the proposal, the program will begin to admit students for the fall 2007 semester. Existing faculty teaching load replacements in the short term, will be funded by partial tuition return to the program. In the longer term, additional permanent instructional staff will be secured by an as-need basis, using partial tuition return to the program. At present, no additional space is required.

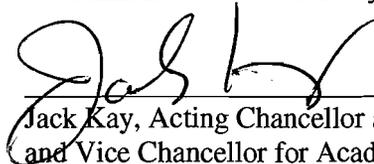
The program has a comprehensive student outcomes assessment plan which has been approved by the UM-Flint Academic Assessment Committee. The plan will be followed to determine if students completing the program meet the goals.

Recommended by:



Vahid Lotfi, Associate Provost and
Dean of Graduate Programs

Recommendation endorsed by:



Jack Kay, Acting Chancellor and Provost
and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

February 2007