

UNIVERSITY OF
NORTHERN COLORADO

BOARD OF TRUSTEES AGENDA ITEM

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| Meeting Date: November 13, 2020 | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action Item <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Item <input type="checkbox"/> Information Item | |
| Name of Item: | New Program: Master of Athletic Training |

Responsible Staff Member: Mark Anderson

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| Summary of Issue: | Transitioning the Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training to a Master of Science in Athletic training. The accrediting body (CAATE) is transitioning the entry level degree for the profession from a Bachelor degree to a Master degree. The Bachelor degree will be phased out. |
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| Recommended Action by BOT: | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approval <input type="checkbox"/> No Action Needed |
| Change to Board Policy Manual: | <input type="checkbox"/> Approval <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Action Needed |
| | If yes, Section: |
| Administrative Recommendation (Motion): Approval | |

Mark R. Anderson

11/5/2020

Signature of Vice President

Date

[Handwritten signature]

11/5/2020

Signature of President

Date

UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN COLORADO

New Graduate Academic Degree

Date for BOT Review: November 13, 2020

GENERAL INFORMATION

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| Program Name: | Athletic Training Master |
| Degree Level: | Master |
| Type of Award: | M.S. |
| College: | College of Natural and Health Sciences |
| School: | Sport & Exercise Science |
| Credits: | 36 |
| Modality/Delivery: | Hybrid online and face-to-face |
| CIP code: | 510913 |

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

The Master of Science in Athletic Training program is an entry-level professional program that prepares a student for a career as a Certified Athletic Trainer. Athletic Trainers are medical experts in preventing, recognizing, managing, and rehabilitating injuries that result from physical activity. Athletic training is recognized by the American Medical Association as an allied health care profession. This program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE). Upon successful completion of this program, the student will have fulfilled the requirements to take the Athletic Training certification examination administered by the Board of Certification, Inc.

PROGRAM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

Admission requirements over and above admission to UNC Graduate School are required. Additional AT program admission requirements include: Evidence of experience in athletic training (at least 50 observation hours under a certified athletic trainer in an athletic training setting); Proof of Emergency Cardiac Care certification that is consistent with a level accepted by the Board of Certification, Inc.

In addition to applying to the Graduate School, complete the ATCAS application process. This process will include submission of multiple documents including, but not limited to a resume, writing samples, and personal statements. Prerequisite courses completed, at the post-secondary level, with a grade of C or better, or in progress at the time of application to the program: General Biology course with lab; General Chemistry course with lab; General Physics course with lab; Human Anatomy & Physiology I with lab; Human Anatomy & Physiology II with lab; Principles of Psychology; Principles of Nutrition; Biomechanics; Exercise Physiology; Introductory Statistics; 2 letters of recommendation from certified athletic trainers; An interview (to be scheduled after the application review)

Upon admission offer, students will be required to complete a physical exam by a physician of their choice; show proof of immunization for hepatitis B, measles, mumps, rubella, tetanus, and diphtheria; and attest that they meet the technical standards established by our program and by the University's Disability Resource Center.

Fit with Statutory Role and Mission:

Regarding UNC's Statutory Role and Mission, this degree transition, as outlined above, fits into our institution's aim of a "specialized graduate research university with selective admission standards." In addition, with respect to the Board of Trustees adopted mission, purposes, and goals, this program will prepare graduate students "to acquire advanced knowledge and skills consistent with the professional preparation and standards of the discipline." Within the College of NHS, this degree transition is also consistent with other health care programs that have changed to post-graduate degrees (e.g., Speech-Language Pathology).

Furthermore, the UNC program is the longest standing accredited professional athletic training program in the state of Colorado. The UNC program is, and would continue to be, the only program north of the metropolitan Denver area and the only program in Colorado and Wyoming housed in an institution offering intercollegiate athletics at the NCAA Division I level. The symbiotic relationship between academics and athletics is noteworthy given the reliance of a strong athletic program on a strong sports medicine presence. The quality and quantity of our highly visible and respected AT alumni speaks for itself.

According to the US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of athletic trainers is projected to grow 23 percent from 2016 to 2026, faster than the average for all occupations. The current Bachelor degree offerings in the School of Sport and Exercise Science, specifically the Human Performance and Exercise Science emphases, will prepare our students for admission into the AT M.S. degree program.