

## VII. STANDING COMMITTEES

## A. Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Establishment of the Master of Health Informatics and Health Information Management

## RECOMMENDED ACTION

It is the recommendation of the administration and the Academic and Student Affairs Committee that the Board of Regents grant authority to the Department of Health Services in the School of Public Health to offer the Master of Health Informatics and Health Information Management degree program, effective Autumn Quarter 2012. This will be a self-sustaining program offered in coordination with UW Professional and Continuing Education (PCE). The degree program will have provisional status with a review to be scheduled for the 2017-2018 academic year. At such time that continuing status is granted, a ten-year review cycle would begin.

## BACKGROUND

In January, 2011, the Graduate School received a full proposal from the graduate faculty in the Department of Health Services requesting authority to offer the Master of Health Informatics and Health Information Management degree program. Implementation is planned for Autumn Quarter 2012. This two-year program anticipates enrolling 22 students per year, with the same number of students graduating annually by 2013.

The Master of Health Informatics and Health Information Management program will prepare individuals to be leaders in health informatics and health information management with an emphasis on legal and evidentiary electronic health records, health information management, and electronic health record business processes. Using high level management skills, graduates will be prepared to oversee organizational processes in accreditation as well as in regulatory and compliance requirements such as privacy, security, healthcare terminologies, and code systems. These individuals will support the design and development of healthcare management information systems that integrate business and operational management information, clinical health systems management information, and electronic health record information to meet strategic initiatives and advance health information technology.

In October, 2011, the Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School appointed two reviewers to evaluate the Master of Health Informatics and Health Information Management proposal. The reviewers both supported approval of the

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degree program. Each reviewer made specific recommendations on the program, to which the program provided detailed responses.

The Graduate School Council met on February 16, 2012, to discuss the degree proposal. The Council recommended that the program revise the written proposal to address several specific comments, after which the proposal should be forwarded on for final approval. The Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School concurred with this recommendation.

The program presented the revised proposal to the Graduate School on March 2, 2012.

The Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School, the Dean of the School of Public Health, and the Provost have reviewed and approved the recommendation to approve the Master of Health Informatics and Health Information Management.