

January 2011

Status Report on Program Approvals January through December 2010

Information Item

This report has been developed to provide the Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) a summary of 2010 program approval activity and outcomes. It lists programs and program extensions in each stage of the approval process as of December 31, 2010. No board action is necessary at this time.

Introduction

During 2010, the Board voted on 17 resolutions and approved 11 new degree programs and six modifications of existing programs. The new degree programs are designed to serve 557 FTE students at full enrollment, including 416 undergraduate and 141 graduate FTE students.

- **Two new degree programs are STEM programs:** Eastern Washington University's B.S. in Mechanical Engineering; and UW Bothell's B.S. in Biology.
- **Two are health programs:** University of Washington's Master of Prosthetics and Orthotics; and Washington State University's Doctor of Nursing Practice.
- **One fits both categories:** EWU's B.S. in Health Informatics and Technology.
- **One features hybrid delivery with a significant online component:** UW's Master of Geographic Information Systems.

The modifications of existing programs primarily involved conversions of options to degrees or consolidation of multiple degrees into a single degree. Thirteen degree titles were added and six were eliminated.

In addition, HECB staff approved seven proposals to extend existing programs to new locations or through distance delivery. These program extensions are designed to serve 529 FTE students at full enrollment, including 339 undergraduate and 190 graduate FTE students. Two of the extensions use distance delivery, one uses hybrid delivery, and five use centers and teaching sites at a total of four different locations.

The Board approved one new self-supporting degree program, and staff approved two self-supporting program extensions. Based on the institutions' planning notices, we expect the number of self-supporting programs will increase within the next two years as institutions attempt to respond to demand while working within budget constraints. The increase in self-supporting programs will be most noticeable at the master's level.

Background

The HECB is charged with planning and coordinating academic programs and off-campus facilities, including teaching sites and centers.

In September 2005, the Board adopted the revised *Program and Facility Approval Policies and Procedures*, which define criteria for approving programs and off-campus facilities and provide opportunities for interested parties to give feedback.

In March 2009, the Board approved an additional revision regarding moderate degree change proposals to accommodate programs that evolve but differ only moderately from existing programs.

Under the *Program and Facility Approval Policies and Procedures*, the HECB approves all of the following:

- New degree programs developed by a public four-year college or university, applied baccalaureate degree programs developed by a community or technical college, and moderate changes to existing programs.
- Creation of off-campus programs by a public four-year college or university.
- New degree programs and creation of off-campus programs by an independent college or university in collaboration with a community or technical college.
- Purchase or lease of major off-campus facilities by a public four-year college or university or a community or technical college.
- Creation of higher education centers and consortia.

The rest of this document reports activity across these areas of approval authority in the order listed above. Within each section and subsection, programs are listed alphabetically by institution and degree title.

New Degree Programs (Public Four-Year College or University)
Applied Baccalaureate Degree Programs (Community or Technical College)
Moderate Changes to Existing Programs

The HECB approves graduate and baccalaureate degree programs, including applied baccalaureate degree programs.¹ *RCW 28B.76.230(5)(a) and RCW 28B.76.230(5)(f)*. If the HECB approves a program, the institution must enroll students within three years or the approval expires and is rescinded (sunset).

Program Planning Notices of Intent (PNOIs) in Process as of 12/31/10

University of Washington - Master of Science in Global Supply Chain Management

Anticipated enrollment: 20 FTE first year (2012-2013); 30 FTE full enrollment (2013-14).

HECB staff action: Currently under review (public comment period ended 12/12/10).

This program would prepare working professionals for the complexities of managing international trade and transportation. It would be offered primarily online but would include a brief on-campus component.

Programs with Permission to Develop Full Proposals as of 12/31/10

Central Washington University – Master of Education in Higher Education

Anticipated enrollment: 5 FTE first year (2011-2012); 12 FTE full enrollment (2015-16).

HECB staff action: Approval to plan granted 12/10/10; expires 12/10/12.

This program would serve students interested in administrative positions in institutions of higher education, civic organizations, non-profit organizations, or government organizations. The program would employ hybrid delivery featuring intensive on-campus classes during summer quarter in Ellensburg and online classes during the academic year.

Central Washington University – Master of Science in Computational Sciences

Anticipated enrollment: 10 FTE first year (2011-2012); 20 FTE full enrollment (2013-2014).

HECB staff action: Approval to plan granted 9/17/10; expires 9/17/12.

This program would serve students interested in developing computational skills relevant to a variety of scientific disciplines such as biology, chemistry, geology, and physics. It would feature a strong mathematical and computing core and coursework in a data-driven science field.

^[1] In 2005, the legislature passed HB 1794, which allowed four community and technical colleges to offer a limited number of applied baccalaureates on a pilot project basis. SSSB 6355 moved applied baccalaureate programs from pilot to regular status, effective June 10, 2010.

Eastern Washington University - Bachelor of Arts in Music Informatics

Anticipated enrollment: 5 FTE first year (2010-2011); 20 FTE full enrollment (2014-2015).

HECB staff action: approval to plan granted 2/18/10; expires 2/18/12.

Music Informatics is an area of research, development, and artistic creation made possible by the contemporary expansion of digital representations and computer processing techniques widely known as digital convergence. This program would serve students interested in interdisciplinary study of music, engineering, and computer science, providing them with a combined music and technology degree.

University of Washington - Bachelor of Science in Integrated Sciences

Anticipated enrollment: 20 FTE first year (2008-2009); 80 FTE full enrollment (2011-2012).

HECB staff action: approval to plan granted 8/21/08; expires 2/21/11.

This interdisciplinary program would serve undergraduates interested in teaching careers at the middle and high school level or careers in informal education (e.g., museums and science centers), science writing, technical management, or technology law. It would include a thorough grounding in the foundations of mathematics, chemistry, physics, biology, and the earth and space sciences.

University of Washington - Master of Health Informatics and Health Information Management

Anticipated enrollment: 23 FTE first year (2012-2013); 40 FTE full enrollment (2017-2018).

HECB staff action: approval to plan granted 12/10/10; expires 12/10/12.

This program would prepare individuals for leadership positions in health informatics and health information management practice. It would complement the university's existing M.S. in Biomedical and Health Informatics and M.S. in Clinical Informatics and Patient-Centered Technologies programs by emphasizing an alternative aspect of health informatics. It would use hybrid delivery.

University of Washington - Master of Human-Computer Interaction and Design

Anticipated enrollment: 20 FTE first year (2011-2012); 25 FTE full enrollment (2013-2014).

HECB staff action: approval to plan granted 9/10/10; expires 9/10/12.

This program would serve students interested in creating devices and systems that help people with everyday activities that computing can enhance. The program would integrate various aspects of design, technology, and the study of human behavior.

University of Washington - Master of Science in Computational Finance and Risk Management

Anticipated enrollment: 20 FTE first year (2011-2012); 60 FTE full enrollment (2016-2017).

HECB staff action: approval to plan granted 12/10/10; expires 12/10/12.

Building on two existing certificate programs, this program would serve students interested in quantitative finance. Topics would include data analysis, portfolio construction, and risk management. Students would be able to choose between online and face-to-face delivery.

University of Washington – Ph.D. in Hispanic Studies

Anticipated enrollment: 6 FTE first year (2010-2011); 18 FTE full enrollment (2018-2019).

HECB staff action: approval to plan granted 1/16/09; expires 1/16/11.

This program would be the first doctoral-level Hispanic studies degree in Washington State. It would feature a strong emphasis on the development of projects that directly involve students with the local Hispanic community and encourage them to discover applications for their research outside academia.

University of Washington – Ph.D. in International Studies

Anticipated enrollment: 4 FTE first year (2011-2012); 16 FTE full enrollment (2014-2015).

HECB staff action: approval to plan granted 3/16/10; expires 3/16/12.

This program would equip students to use the intellectual and analytical framework of four interdisciplinary fields in international studies: Religions, Cultures, and Civilizations (RCC); Law, Rights, and Governance (LRG); States, Markets, and Societies (SMS); and Peace, Violence, and Security (PVS). Students would learn to tackle problem-focused research on some of the most pressing global challenges facing academics, practitioners, governments, businesses, and non-governmental organizations today.

University of Washington Bothell - Bachelor of Arts in Global and Public Health Studies

Anticipated enrollment: 30 FTE first year (2012-2013); 50 FTE full enrollment (2016-2017).

HECB staff action: approval to plan granted 8/20/10; expires 8/20/12.

This program would serve students interested in understanding global and public health at the undergraduate level. Global and public health is a dynamic field that lays the groundwork for numerous career paths including health practice, social work, psychology, epidemiology, public service, research, education, international public health, and health policy.

University of Washington Bothell - Bachelor of Arts in Interactive Media and Technology

Anticipated enrollment: 50 FTE first year (2009-2010); 100 FTE full enrollment (2011-2012).
HECB staff action: approval to plan granted 9/21/09; expires 9/21/11.

This program would serve students who wish to pursue careers in fields such as game development, digital media, visual arts and communications, and information technology.

University of Washington Bothell - Bachelor of Science in Climate Science and Policy

Anticipated enrollment: 24 FTE first year (2010-2011); 60 FTE full enrollment (2015-2016).
HECB staff action: approval to plan granted 10/29/09; expires 10/29/11.

This program would serve students who wish to pursue careers or enter graduate school in the climate change field. The program would build on University of Washington Bothell strengths in natural sciences and environmental policy, including faculty research and expertise in climate science and sustainability.

University of Washington Bothell – Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing and Cultural Poetics

Anticipated enrollment: 18 FTE first year (2012-2013); 36 FTE full enrollment (2013-2014).
HECB staff action: approval to plan granted 6/1/10; expires 6/1/12.

This program would serve students interested in becoming writers. Unlike most traditional MFA programs, it would be organized around areas of inquiry rather than genres (poetry, fiction, non-fiction). It would address the ways written forms are changing within society and would also cover computer and web-based forms of writing, which conventional genres do not address adequately.

University of Washington Tacoma - Bachelor of Arts in History

Anticipated enrollment: 12 FTE first year (2009-2010); 62 FTE full enrollment (2013-2014).
HECB staff action: approval to plan granted 5/18/09; expires 5/18/11.

This history program would equip students with skills in gathering information from primary and secondary sources, analyzing the information and identifying its most significant aspects, drawing conclusions based on the analysis, and producing well-written narratives and oral presentations relating the contents and results of their work.

University of Washington Tacoma – Master of Arts in Community and Metropolitan Studies

Anticipated enrollment: 10 FTE first year (2010-2011); 30 FTE full enrollment (2012-2013).
HECB staff action: approval to plan granted 5/18/09; expires 5/18/11.

This program would train students to take a comprehensive approach to the study of metropolitan communities, emphasizing the importance of a wide range of social and economic policies and problems affecting cities. The degree title, “Community and Metropolitan Studies,” was chosen to emphasize that in the 21st century “urban” conditions cannot be understood in isolation from surrounding suburban, exurban, and even rural politics and society.

Washington State University – Ph.D. in Developmental Science and Prevention

Anticipated enrollment: 8 FTE first year (2011-2012); 34 FTE full enrollment (2014-2015).
HECB staff action: approval to plan granted 5/24/10; expires 5/24/12.

This interdisciplinary program would serve students interested in becoming faculty in departments of child development, communication, developmental psychology, educational psychology, family studies, human development, public health nursing, rural sociology, and social work. It would also serve students interested in working as program evaluators, research analysts, and administrators in government, private research institutes, social service agencies, and consulting firms. The field of prevention science integrates theory and methodology from several disciplines to explore and prevent the development of emotional and behavioral problems in children and youth.

Western Washington University – Bachelor of Arts in Business Sustainability

Anticipated enrollment: 15 FTE first year (2011-2012); 50 FTE full enrollment (2015-2016).
HECB staff action: approval to plan granted 8/20/10; expires 8/20/12.

This program would serve students interested in analyzing environmental and social issues (e.g., climate change, waste, and pollution) from multiple perspectives and choosing and implementing action steps to deal with those issues successfully. Perspectives would be based on economics, environmental science and policy, and business and management.

Western Washington University – Bachelor of Arts in Education: General Science – Middle Level

Anticipated enrollment: 5 FTE first year (2010-2011); 10 FTE full enrollment (2012-2013).
HECB staff action: approval to plan granted 12/18/09; expires 12/18/11.

This program would serve students interested in teaching science at middle schools. Completion of this program in conjunction with Western Washington University's elementary professional program would satisfy the academic requirements for endorsements in elementary education and middle-level science.

Western Washington University – Professional Science Master's in Environmental Science

Anticipated enrollment: 20 FTE first year (2011-2012); 20-30 FTE full enrollment (2013-2014).
HECB staff action: approval to plan granted 5/24/10; expires 5/24/12.

This program would serve students interested in obtaining a strong background in technical skills combined with business and management skills necessary to contribute to operational effectiveness in the workplace. A Professional Science Master's (PSM) degree is roughly the STEM equivalent of an MBA. It is a terminal degree meant to prepare students for the professional world rather than academia. Although PSM degrees are new to Washington, there are more than 170 PSM programs available at 71 institutions of higher education across the United States.

Programs that Sunset between 1/1/10 and 12/31/10

University of Washington – Bachelor of Science in Magnetic Resonance Technology

Approval to develop a full proposal expired 12/19/10.

University of Washington Tacoma – Bachelor of Arts in Human Rights

Approval to develop a full proposal expired 10/3/10.

Washington State University – Master of Science and Ph.D. in Bioengineering

Approval to develop a full proposal expired 1/24/10.

Full Proposals in Process as of 12/31/10

Central Washington University – Master of Science in Law and Justice

Anticipated enrollment: 15 FTE first year (2011-2012); 30 FTE full enrollment (2012-2013).

HECB staff action: review completed and approval recommended (public comment period ended 12/30/10).

This program would serve students who want to enhance or enter careers in fields such as law enforcement, corrections, court administration, and social services. It would feature hybrid delivery and two specializations, one for students with relevant professional experience and one for students seeking to begin or switch to law and justice careers.

University of Washington - Master of Sustainable Transportation

Anticipated enrollment: 5 FTE first year (2011-2012); 26 FTE full enrollment (2015-2016).

HECB staff action: currently under review (public comment period ended 1/16/11).

This program would serve working transportation professionals, such as transportation planners and engineers, who wish to learn about sustainable strategies and apply their knowledge in practice. It would be offered primarily online through synchronous web-based, delivery, with a week-long, on-campus component.

Moderate Degree Change Proposals in Process as of 12/31/10

Eastern Washington University - Bachelor of Arts in Education in Early Childhood Education

Anticipated enrollment: 20 FTE first year (2010-2011); 25 FTE full enrollment (2013-2014).

HECB staff action: review completed and approval recommended (public comment period ended 1/10/11).

EWU proposes to convert a Bachelor of Arts in Education in Children's Studies - Early Childhood Education option into a stand-alone degree. The conversion would involve moderate curricular changes motivated by state early childhood education endorsement requirements. The new title would be more recognizable to both students and employers.

New Baccalaureate Degree Programs Approved Between 1/1/10 and 12/31/10

Central Washington University – Bachelor of Arts in Middle Level Mathematics and Science Teaching

Approval granted 3/10/10, Resolution 10-04.

**Central Washington University – Bachelor of Science in Actuarial Science
Moderate Degree Change**

Approval granted 5/13/10, Resolution 10-08.

**Central Washington University – Bachelor of Science in Clinical Physiology
Moderate Degree Change**

Approval granted 9/16/10, Resolution 10-21.

Eastern Washington University – Bachelor of Science in Health Informatics Technology and Management

Approval granted 11/16/10, Resolution 10-28.

Eastern Washington University – Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering

Conditional approval granted 7/15/10, Resolution 10-12.

University of Washington Bothell – Bachelor of Science in Biology

Approval granted 7/15/10, Resolution 10-13.

University of Washington Tacoma – Bachelor of Arts Degrees Converted from Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences Concentrations

Moderate Degree Change

Bachelor of Arts in American Studies

Bachelor of Arts in Arts, Media, and Culture

Bachelor of Arts in Communications

Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies

Bachelor of Arts in Ethnic, Gender, and Labor Studies

Bachelor of Arts in Politics, Philosophy, and Economics

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

Approval granted 10/20/10, Resolution 10-24.

University of Washington Tacoma – Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice

Approval granted 3/10/10, Resolution 10-06.

University of Washington Tacoma – Bachelor of Arts in Sustainable Urban Development

Approval granted 5/13/10, Resolution 10-09.

University of Washington Tacoma – Bachelor of Arts in Writing Studies

Approval granted 9/16/10, Resolution 10-22.

Western Washington University – Bachelor of Arts in Education: Language, Literacy, and Cultural Studies

Approval granted 1/29/10, Resolution 10-02.

New Master's Degree Programs Approved Between 1/1/10 and 12/31/10

University of Washington – Master of Geographic Information Systems

Approval granted 3/10/10, Resolution 10-05.

University of Washington – Master of Prosthetics and Orthotics

Approval granted 7/15/10, Resolution 10-14.

University of Washington – Master of Science in Information Science

Moderate Degree Change

Approval granted 1/29/10, Resolution 10-01.

University of Washington – Master of Science in Public Policy and Management

Approval granted 7/15/10, Resolution 10-15.

Washington State University – Master of Science in Molecular Biosciences

Moderate Degree Change (M.S. and Ph.D. included in same proposal)

Approval granted 7/15/10, Resolution 10-16.

New Doctoral Degree Programs Approved Between 1/1/10 and 12/31/10

Washington State University – Doctor of Nursing Practice

Approval granted 9/16/10 (contingent on change in statutory authority), Resolution 10-23.

Washington State University – Ph.D. in Molecular Biosciences

Moderate Degree Change (M.S. and Ph.D. included in same proposal)

Approval granted 7/15/10, Resolution 10-16.

Creation of Off-Campus Programs by a Public Four-Year College or University

The HECB approves the extension of existing degree programs to new locations or via distance delivery. *RCW 28B.76.230(5)(b)*

Program Extensions in Process as of 12/31/10

There were no program extensions in process as of 12/31/10.

Program Extensions Approved Between 1/1/10 and 12/31/10

Eastern Washington University – Bachelor of Arts in Children’s Studies Online

Anticipated enrollment: 35 FTE first year (2010-2011); 100 FTE full enrollment (2013-2014).
HECB staff action: approval granted 8/4/10.

EWU received approval to extend its Bachelor of Arts in Children’s Studies degree program to online delivery. The program is designed to serve students interested in a variety of occupations, including early learning or preschool teacher, after school program director, youth shelter worker, crisis care provider, child care licenser, juvenile justice worker, foster care supervisor, family mediator, and child life specialist.

University of Washington Bothell – Bachelor of Science in Nursing University Center of North Puget Sound at Everett Community College

Anticipated enrollment: 30 FTE first year (2010-2011); 30 FTE full enrollment (2012-2013).
HECB staff action: approval granted 6/1/10.

UW Bothell received approval to extend its Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) to the University Center of North Puget Sound at Everett Community College. This program is designed to serve registered nurses (RN) seeking a RN-BSN completion program and also to provide seamless articulation with associate degree nursing programs. It responds to the HB 2694 legislative directive to establish a BSN program at the University Center.

University of Washington Tacoma – Master of Business Administration UAE Academy (in the city of Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates)

Anticipated enrollment: 40 FTE first year (2010-2011); 105 FTE full enrollment (2016-2017).
HECB staff action: approval granted 4/6/10.

UW Tacoma received approval to extend its Master of Business Administration program by offering it at the UAE Academy in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. The program is designed to provide experienced professionals and managers with tools for leading organizations responding to the challenges of change. It will be self-supporting, and start-up expenditures and financial risk will be covered by the UW Educational Outreach risk-opportunity pool.

Washington State University – Bachelor of Arts in History WSU Vancouver

Anticipated enrollment: 38 FTE first year (2010-2011); 85 FTE full enrollment (2013-2014).
HECB staff action: approval granted 4/20/10.

WSU received approval to extend its Bachelor of Arts in History degree program by offering it at the WSU Vancouver campus. The program is designed to serve students interested in learning to think historically, understand human actions over extended periods of time, and understand the impact of major events on human affairs.

Washington State University – Bachelor of Arts in Sociology**WSU Vancouver**

Anticipated enrollment: 21 FTE first year (2010-2011); 84 FTE full enrollment (2013-2014).

HECB staff action: approval granted 4/20/10.

WSU received approval to extend its Bachelor of Arts in Sociology degree program by offering it at the WSU Vancouver campus. The program is designed to serve students interested in understanding what makes people and groups of people behave the way they do. It will cover a wide range of issues, including inequality, human ecology, deviance, religion, medicine, and politics.

**Washington State University – Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering
Olympic College (hybrid delivery)**

Anticipated enrollment: 15 FTE first year (2010-2011); 40 FTE full enrollment (2013-2014).

HECB staff action: approval granted 4/20/10 for extension to Olympic College but denied for extension to Yakima Valley Community College due to insufficient demand evidence.

WSU submitted a Location Notice of Intent to extend its Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering program by offering it at Olympic College and Yakima Valley Community College. WSU received approval to offer the program at Olympic College only. The program is designed to serve students interested in studying mechanical engineering. WSU plans to extend its existing ABET accreditation in Mechanical Engineering to the Olympic College location.

**Washington State University – Master of Science in Molecular Biosciences,
Professional Science Master's Option Online**

Anticipated enrollment: 13 FTE first year (2010-2011); 85 FTE full enrollment (2013-2014).

HECB staff action: approval granted 9/10/10.

WSU received approval to extend the Professional Science Master's option within its Master of Science in Molecular Biosciences degree program by offering it online. The program is designed to serve science graduates who wish to extend their education in both science and non-science fields so that they will have a competitive edge entering or advancing in their career. It will offer students professional courses that are absent from the traditional M.S. degree.

**New Degree Programs and Creation of Off-Campus Programs by an
Independent College or University in Collaboration with a Community or
Technical College**

The HECB approves new degree programs and creation of off-campus programs by an independent college/university in collaboration with a community or technical college.
RCW 28B.76.230(5)(e)

There was no approval activity between 12/1/10 and 12/31/10.

Purchase or Lease of Major Off-Campus Facilities by a Public Four-Year College or University or a Community or Technical College

The HECB approves major new off-campus instructional facilities within the following categories: teaching site, center, system campus, or new four-year institution. The HECB approves the acquisition of major off-campus instructional facilities (those in excess of 6,000 square feet and/or with an annual lease cost in excess of \$60,000 and/or those with unimproved property of one-half acres or more). *RCW 28B.76.230(5)(b)(c)(d)*

There was no approval activity between 12/1/10 and 12/31/10.

Creation of Higher Education Centers and Consortia

The HECB approves major new off-campus instructional facilities whether through lease arrangement or purchase within the following categories: teaching site, center, system campus, or new four-year institution. *RCW 28B.76.230(5)(b)(c)(d)*

There was no approval activity between 1/1/10 and 12/31/10.

Miscellaneous Notifications Received from Institutions between 1/1/10 and 12/31/10

The HECB received and acknowledged routine notifications from institutions regarding matters such as changes to certificate programs, degree titles, and addresses for teaching sites. The HECB only reviews certificate programs of depth and/or length that approach or exceed the requirements of an undergraduate major or a master's degree. The HECB *Program and Facility Approval Policies and Procedures* require notification, rather than review, for additions, deletions, and modifications of less extensive certificate programs.