UNIVERSITY SENATE

UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

Introduced by: Graduate Academic Council

Date: November 16, 2009

PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH AN ADVANCED (GRADUATE) CERTIFICATE PROGRAM IN PROFESSIONAL SCIENCE MANAGEMENT (PSM)

IT IS HEREBY PROPOSED THAT THE FOLLOWING BE ADOPTED:

1.   That the University Senate approves the attached Proposal as approved by the Graduate Academic Council.

2.   That the Senate approved Proposal be forwarded to the President for consideration.

University at Albany, SUNY

Proposal to Establish an Advanced Graduate Certificate Program in Professional Science Management

Proposed Starting Date: Spring 2010

I. Introduction and Rationale

The Department of Biological Sciences in the College of Arts & Sciences and the Department of Computer Science in the College of Computing & Information, in conjunction with the School of Business and the Department of Public Affairs & Policy in the Rockefeller College, propose the establishment of an Advanced (Graduate) Certificate program in Professional Science Management. The proposed program builds upon registered University at Albany graduate programs: 1) M.S. in Forensic Biology (State program code 28114); 2) M.S. in Biodiversity, Conservation and Policy (State program code 20206); and 3) M.S. in Computer Science (State program code 82212). The courses in the proposed Advanced Certificate are applicable to these programs, the M.B.A. program in the School of Business and/or the M.P.A. program in the Department of Public Administration & Policy of Rockefeller College.

The dramatic changes in science and technology in the context of global competition represent one of the major challenges to the growth and viability of the New York State economy. A key element in maintaining a competitive advantage for New York State is the continued development of a workforce that is not only capable of *doing* but likewise able to *manage* science and technology. The Albany Capital District has been a leader in the creation of science and technology jobs for New York State. Accordingly, the purpose of this proposal is to build on the University at Albany's legacy of leadership by establishing an Advanced (Graduate) Certificate in Professional Science Management.

Individuals who enter the Advanced Certificate program will be advised into courses specific to their track which best complement their science-based M.S. programs, with supplemental and cooperative advisement available from the School of Business in regard to potential business course selections. All students who enter the Certificate program will:

- engage in cross-disciplinary training in science, business, communication, public policy, law, geographic information systems, information management, ethics, and/or other areas of study determined by each track to be of particular benefit to Advanced Certificate students;

- share an interest in preparing for a wider variety of career options than provided by current graduate programs in the sciences; and

- demonstrate through an internship their ability to put science and/or managerial preparation to work in business and industry.

The underlying concept of the Certificate in Professional Science Management has been influenced by the Council of Graduate Schools (CGS) and the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, who have worked with more than 60 institutions nation-wide to help launch "professional science master's" (PSM) programs.[1] With Sloan Foundation support, these programs have emerged both to meet the needs of industry and economic development and also to provide an alternative educational and career path for those students with the B.S. who wish to pursue graduate education and a career in science within business, government, or non-governmental organizations, but do not want, exclusively, a research career.

Neither the Sloan-supported programs nor the proposed Certificate involves licensure, although CGS has identified the elements of such programs that qualify them to use the term "professional science master's" programs.[2] Students at the University at Albany who complete both the M.S. in a science field and the Advanced Certificate in Professional Science Management will be considered "professional science master's" graduates; however, the University at Albany is not proposing a new PSM degree—only an Advanced Certificate to enhance existing M.S. programs for master's students interested in a non-research science career.

Several members of the Albany faculty and staff have participated in meetings concerning the development of the SUNY Advanced Certificate as part of an initiative to establish "professional science master's" programs at more than a dozen campuses throughout the SUNY system. These campuses, including all 4 University centers, are cooperating, sharing ideas and materials, and in some cases making their courses available to PSM students on other SUNY campuses. The University at Albany's proposed Advanced Certificate in Professional Science Management is modeled in part on an existing Advanced Certificate program at the University at Buffalo, the campus that pioneered the concept within the SUNY System and with the New York State Department of Education.

While particular faculty members currently serving as directors of master's-level programs in Biology and Computer Science have come together to initially propose the Advanced Certificate in Professional Science Management within their Colleges, and their departments and deans have written letters in support of their students enrolling in such a program, these two departments do not seek exclusive co-sponsorship of the proposed Advanced Certificate. Rather, the Advanced Certificate is structured to be

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[1] For more information on the national PSM initiative please visit www.cgsnet.org and www.sciencemasters.com . See http://www.sciencemasters.com/PSMProgramList/InstitutionsinAlphabeticalOrder/tabid/79/Default.aspx for a list of these institutions.

[2] See http://www.sciencemasters.com/portals/0/pdfs/Guidelines_for_PSM_Affiliation.pdf for a list of Guidelines for Formal CGS Recognition as a Professional Science Master's Program (PSM).

adaptable by other master's programs in the science, technology, and mathematics fields at the University at Albany that might wish to offer an additional professional option to master's-level students. Indeed, faculty from several other master's programs in the sciences have already participated in meetings where they have expressed both interest in and varying degrees of readiness for adapting aspects of their own programs to make a "professional science master's" option available to their students in the future by means of offering the Advanced Certificate in addition to their M.S. degree. Campus governance action would be necessary in order to add additional departments and M.S. programs to the co-sponsorship of the Advanced Certificate.

II. Prospective Students & Enrollments

Individuals who have matriculated into and/or graduated from the University at Albany master's programs in the sciences in those programs that have established "professional science master's" programs (M.S. + Advanced Certificate) are eligible to apply for the Advanced Certificate in Professional Science Management. In some cases, Advanced Certificate applications will be considered from master's students or graduates from other institutions. Each Advanced Certificate track adds further definition to admissions criteria in section V. below.

Currently-enrolled students are likely candidates for the Advanced Certificate once the program is approved. It is expected that the first cohort will be comprised of 5-10 students across the sponsoring departments (Biological Sciences and Computer Science).

III. General Curriculum

The University at Albany's proposed "professional science master's" (PSM) program will add an Advanced Certificate in Professional Science Management to existing masters curricula in the designated STEM fields such that the PSM = M.S. + Advanced Certificate. Consistent with the models that have been developed nationally under the auspices of the Sloan Foundation and the Council of Graduate Schools (CGS), the University at Albany's Advanced Certificate will be comprised of the following:

(1) Current science requirement: graduate-level courses in science and/or technology as appropriate (at least 6 credit hours).
(2) "PLUS" courses in various areas of business, communications, law, public administration, public policy and planning as appropriate to the program (at least 9 credit hours);
(3) Internship/Portfolio (at least 3 credit hours);

Total minimum credits required for the Advanced Certificate: 18

Graduate-level courses in science and/or technology already required by a participating M.S. program may also be used to satisfy the current science credit requirements of the Advanced Certificate program. Prior master's graduates may be required to update science course work in fulfillment of this requirement. In all cases, the Advanced

Certificate will require at least 9 credits of "PLUS" courses that exceed the requirements of the existing M.S. program. If an internship is already required by the M.S. program, it may also be used to satisfy the internship/credit requirements of the Advanced Certificate program.

IV. Master's Degree Co-Requisite or Pre-Requisite Requirement

In order to qualify for award of the Advanced Certificate, students must present evidence of prior award of the master's degree, or qualification for simultaneous award of the master's degree, in the appropriate scientific program.

V. Interface with Existing Master's Programs; Track Specific Admission and Curricular Requirements

Three University at Albany master's programs initially propose to add the Advanced Certificate in Professional Science Management to their existing curricula in order to create "professional science master's" (PSM) programs that may be affiliated with the Council of Graduate Schools.

A. Forensic Molecular Biology. The PSM program initiative is a golden opportunity for the criminal justice community to once again partner with the University at Albany to reap the benefits of an Advanced Certificate that adds business and leadership coursework to the 40 credit M.S. program in Forensic Biology. This initiative would enhance law enforcement by providing managerial coursework tailored for current or future forensic supervisors, directors, technical leaders and administrators. Most of today's forensic administrators, supervisors and directors rely on managerial education and training either through their own on-the-job experiences or by attending a 30-credit MBA program.

1. Forensic Biology Track Advanced Certificate Admission Requirements

   Suitable Advanced Certificate candidates will present academic backgrounds as Forensic Biology students or graduates within the past five years from the University at Albany and possibly other Forensic Biology programs from other colleges both in-state and out-of-state. Current master's students seeking entry into the Advanced Certificate program shall have passed the written comprehensive examination with a grade of a 3.0 or better, or present comparable credentials from other programs/institutions. Each applicant must formally submit a University at Albany standard application including a statement of objectives, 3 letters of recommendation, and graduate transcripts (if not already on file). Applicants will be ranked by the Forensic Biology Admissions Committee on the quality of their statements, graduate academic records and supporting letters.

2. Forensic Biology Track Advanced Certificate Curriculum

a. "Plus" Courses – A minimum of nine earned credits. At least six credits from the Business Group, or at least six credits from the Policy/Management Group, plus additional credits, if necessary, from any group:

BUSINESS GROUP

BACC 518 Accounting for Managers (3)
BBUS 523 Presentation Skills (1)
BMGT 513 Organizational Behavior and Managerial Skills (3)
BMGT 514 Human Resources Management (3)

POLICY/MANAGEMENT GROUP

RPAD 501 Public and Nonprofit Financial Management
RPAD 503 (RPUB 503) Principles of Public Economics (4)
RPAD 506 Foundations of Public Management (4)
RPAD 618 Public Personnel Administration (4)

OTHERS

RPAD 622 Methods of Public Policy Analysis (4)
RPAD 626 Evaluation of Public Sector Programs (4)

b. Internship/Portfolio

A 6-credit internship, ABIO698, is already required in the 40-credit M.S. in Forensic Biology program, with internship results forming the basis for a substantial written report. This will be used to satisfy the internship/portfolio requirement of the Advanced Certificate program.

B. Biodiversity Conservation and Policy. PSM students who add the Advanced Certificate to the M.S. in Biodiversity, Conservation and Policy will fill a need related to the existing M.S. program for a non-research track addressing the business, finance and management aspects of conservation. The majority of graduates of the Biodiversity, Conservation and Policy program find employment in conservation-oriented non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and in resource management agencies. The work of NGOs and resource management agencies is influenced by markets and dependent on the development of policies, practices and techniques embedded in business and economics. Employment opportunities exist and will continue to exist for professionals trained not only to link conservation science to public policy but to understand the business, management and economic implications of the decisions that create those linkages.

1. Biodiversity, Conservation and Policy Track Advanced Certificate Admission Requirements

Current University at Albany Biodiversity, Conservation and Policy students may apply for admission to the Advanced Certificate after completing a minimum of 12 credits toward the M.S. degree and passing the Program's Core Examination. University at Albany Biodiversity, Conservation and Policy M.S. graduates may also apply for admission to the Advanced Certificate program within five years of graduation. Each applicant must submit a University at Albany standard application including a statement of interests and objectives. Applications will be reviewed by Biodiversity, Conservation and Policy faculty with admission decisions to be based on the quality of the statements and graduate academic records, in consideration of overall demand for the Advanced Certificate program, its courses and the ability to accommodate such demand.

2. Biodiversity, Conservation and Policy Track Advanced Certificate Curriculum

   a. "Plus" Courses – A minimum of nine earned credits from the following courses, as determined by collaboration between student and advisor:

      BUSINESS GROUP

      BACC 518 Accounting for Managers (3)
      BBUS 523 Presentation Skills (1)
      BMGT 513 Organizational Behavior and Managerial Skills (3)
      BMGT 514 Human Resources Management (3)

      POLICY/MANAGEMENT GROUP

      RPAD 501 Public and Nonprofit Financial Management
      RPAD 503 (RPUB 503) Principles of Public Economics (4)
      RPAD 506 Foundations of Public Management (4)

      The specific courses selected will reflect the varied interests of the student body. Thus, students interested in the NGO sector might be advised into RPAD 501, Public and Nonprofit Financial Management, while those intending to pursue careers in the public sector (e.g., natural resource management agencies) might be advised into RPAD 503, Principles of Public Economics or RPAD 506 Foundations of Public Management. These courses would be taken in addition to those taken to provide fundamental training in policy and public administration as currently required for the M.S. degree in Biodiversity Conservation and Policy.

   b. Internship/Portfolio

      The internship/portfolio requirement of the Advanced Certificate program will link the required internship experience for the Advanced Certificate to the thesis requirement, ABIO699, for the M.S. degree. The BCP program may use funds from its endowments to help to underwrite internships. Internship

opportunities already exist or are anticipated with The Nature Conservancy; the Mohawk-Hudson Land Conservancy; the Land-Trust Alliance; the Sierra Club; the American Farmland Trust; the Coastal Resources Division of the NY Department of State; and the Hudson River Estuary Program of the NY State Department of Environmental Conservation.

C. <u>Computer Science</u>. The M.S. program in Computer Science develops a solid foundation that can lead the student to continue on to doctoral studies or to take a position in industry. Computer Science PSM-seeking students will be advised into a 32 credit PSM sequence within the M.S. program with greater emphasis on specific topics and on applications rather than theory, including an internship and research project, ICSI 698, leading to a substantial written report. These students will additionally need to complete and earn, for the Advanced Certificate, at least 9 additional graduate credits in "plus" courses that will provide exposure to business, ethics, policy, and other issues outside the traditional scientific realm. The "PSM" track—the M.S. in Computer Science plus the Advanced Certificate in Professional Science Management, will serve master's students whose careers progress into management, marketing, sales, or into other areas not primarily scientific.

1. Computer Science Track Advanced Certificate Admission Requirements

   Candidates from computer science for the Professional Science Master's Advanced Certificate will be taken only from active students in the Computer Science Master's program. Initially, recent graduates and graduates from other master's programs will not be accepted; this policy may be revisited in the future. To be eligible, an applicant must i) have removed all undergraduate deficiencies; ii) have completed the core courses with a grade point average of 3.0 or better; iii) have passed the Discrete Mathematics Examination. Eligible applicants must submit a written request incorporating an updated Statement of (PSM) Objectives to the Computer Science Graduate Admissions Committee via the Office of Graduate Admissions for admission consideration to the Advanced Certificate PSM. These applicants will have already submitted (successfully) a standard University at Albany Graduate M.S. Application and such will be available to faculty considering the Advance Certificate PSM application.

2. Computer Science Track Advanced Certificate Curriculum

   b. "Plus" Courses – A minimum of nine earned credits. At least six credits from the Business Group, or at least six credits from the Policy/Management Group, plus additional credits, if necessary, from any group:

   BUSINESS GROUP

   BACC 518 Accounting for Managers (3)
   BBUS 523 Presentation Skills (1)
   BMGT 513 Organizational Behavior and Managerial Skills (3)

BMGT 514 Human Resources Management (3)

POLICY/MANAGEMENT GROUP

RPAD 501 Public and Nonprofit Financial Management
RPAD 503 (RPUB 503) Principles of Public Economics (4)
RPAD 506 Foundations of Public Management (4)
RPUB 540 Urban Policy in the United States (4)

OTHERS

RPAD 622 Methods of Public Policy Analysis (4)
RPAD 626 Evaluation of Public Sector Programs (4)

b. Internship/Portfolio

The internship/portfolio requirement may be fulfilled within the M.S. program under enrollment for the Master's Project, ICSI 698, leading to a substantial written report.

VI. Advisement and Support for Students Enrolled in the Certificate in Professional Science Management

Students enrolled in the Certificate program will receive advisement and career placement assistance from their M.S. "professional science master's" program director. In addition, the School of Business will offer specific advisement concerning appropriate business course selection choices for PSM students. It will be important that the M.S. program directors advise their PSM students early in the advisement process each term to additionally meet with the School of Business advisor to convey interest in specific courses in order to secure access.

VII. Transfer Credit

In addition to courses from the University at Albany, PSM students may have similar courses available to them at other SUNY institutions also working System-wide to develop the Advanced Certificate model. Although University policy does not currently specify a limit on the number of courses that may be accepted for "transfer" credit for graduate certificates, students interested in transferring a course or courses from another SUNY institution toward completion of Advanced Certificate requirements will need to secure appropriate advisement and approval from their PSM track director.

VIII. Resources

The Advanced Certificate program will be implemented by utilizing the existing programs in the Biology and Computer Science Departments in conjunction with the

"plus" courses that will be provided by the School of Business, Rockefeller College and the Department of Geography and Planning within the College of Arts and Sciences Because the capacity for admission to the Advanced Certificate program is limited by the existing student capacity within M.S. programs in Biodiversity, Conservation, and Policy; Forensic Biology; and Computer Science, it is expected that Advanced Certificate program enrollments will be modest and that students will be dispersed across the wide array of Advanced Certificate offerings, thereby pressing enrollment capacity in those offerings minimally if at all.

The University at Albany has received a small amount of grant funding ($15,000) to be used for web-site and/or materials development, in-state travel for program directors to attend SUNY-wide PSM program meetings, small stipends for the program directors in recognition of their efforts to provide initial "launch," and a stipend for the "set up" efforts required in the School of Business advisement office. In addition, the National Science Foundation has announced that it is considering a "professional science master's" grant initiative. Faculty involved in the Advanced Certificate program will be encouraged to apply for this or any other additional funding that might allow the campus to further develop the program and/or to provide opportunities for additional departments and programs to become involved.

IX. Business Advisory Board

The group of science master's programs that choose to propose the Advanced Certificate in Professional Science Management have created a Business Advisory Board that will function to assist in further development of the curriculum. This board is comprised of representatives of leading science and technology firms and organizations in the Albany Capital District. Many of the prospective companies, organizations and/or business leaders have already been identified, and many have already met with University at Albany faculty and staff to discuss the prospective PSM program. Several are already active consultants with existing M.S. programs. The following business/industry leaders and/or companies have expressed interest in the advisory board, and several provided letters of support that allowed us to secure the Sloan planning grant for the Advanced Certificate program:

John Hicks, Director of the Northeast Regional Forensic Institute, University at Albany

Mark Dale, Program Manager, US Army Criminal Investigation Laboratory, Forest Park, Georgia 30279-5205.David Haight, American Farmland Trust, 112 Spring St., Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

William F. Johnson, Assistant Deputy Director, NYS Office of Cyber Security & Critical Infrastructure Coordination , 30 S. Pearl St., Albany, NY 12207.

Jeff Lawrence, Executive V.P. for Technology Center for Economic Growth, 255 Fuller Rd., Albany, NY 12203

Susan Lawrence, The Sierra Club, 353 Hamilton St., Albany, NY 12210

Larry Spraker, Vice President, Fountain Spatial, Inc., 1535 Western Ave., Albany, NY 12203

David Van Luven, Director, Hudson River Estuary Landscape Program, 21 S. Putt Corners Rd., New Paltz, NY 12561

Jeffrey Zapierri, Chief of Regulatory Affairs, NY Coastal Management Program, 99 Washington Ave. Suite, Albany, NY 12231

Gerald Zoesky, NYS Police, Forensic Investigation Center, 1220 Washington Ave., Albany, NY 12222

X. Faculty Leaders

Three current faculty members from existing master's programs have championed the Advanced Certificate in Professional Science Management and plan to make the Certificate available to their students as part of "professional science master's" programs.

Gary Kleppel is Professor of Biology and Director of the Biodiversity, Conservation and Policy Program.

Donald Orokos is Professor of Biology and Director of the Forensic Biology Program.

Neil Murray is Professor and Graduate Director of the Computer Science Department.

Key faculty members have additionally provided curricular advice-pertaining to Advanced Certificate managerial course work in the School of Business and the Department of Public Affairs & Policy.

Donald Siegel is Professor of Management and Dean of the School of Business.

Robert Purtell is Assistant Professor of Finance and Director of the Master of Public Administration Program in the Department of Public Affairs & Policy in the Nelson A. Rockefeller College.

R. Karl Rethemeyer is Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Public Affairs & Policy in the Nelson A. Rockefeller College.

XI. Advanced Certificate Course Descriptions

BACC 518 Accounting for Managers (3)

Focuses on understanding financial statements and accounting information and how this information is useful to the manager. Managers must understand cost concepts and how they relate to a variety of environmental and operational variables. Such understanding leads to the ability to analyze profitability and interpret the information supplied by various performance measurement systems. Emphasis is placed on the meaning and value of accounting information to the manager.

BBUS 523 Presentation Skills (1)

Skills-oriented course seeks to develop effective individual presentation skills through instruction and practice. Students will be video-taped and given detailed feedback about their skills and needs for improvement. Attention will also be given to working as part of a group in making business presentations.

BMGT 513 Organizational Behavior and Managerial Skills (3)

This course provides a basic understanding of individual, group, and organizational processes. Key processes include motivation, communication, decision making, leadership, group dynamics, conflict resolution and organizational design. The emphasis is on building diagnostic skills needed to understand organizational processes and the leadership and interpersonal skills needed to carry out key responsibilities in any type of management position.

BMGT 514 Human Resources Management (3)

Overview of human resources management in organizations. Topics include personnel recruitment, selection, assessment, performance appraisal, training, safety, compensation, employee benefits, personnel planning, career counseling, affirmative action, labor relations, and collective bargaining.

RPAD 501 Public and Nonprofit Financial Management (4)

This course focuses on teaching students how to use financial information to make decisions in public and not-for-profit organizations. The first half of the course focuses on developing, implementing and controlling agency financial plans. The course covers an introduction to financial management, the development of operating budgets, tools for short-term decision-making, capital-budgeting decisions, and the analysis of long-term financial options. The second half of the course focuses on summarizing, reporting on and analyzing an organization's financial position, and the results of its operations.

RPAD 503 (RPUB 503) Principles of Public Economics (4)

This course examines the application of market mechanisms such as prices, profits, and information in allocating resources in major domestic policy areas.

Topics include the economics of markets and firms; basic management and cost accounting; and the effects of alternative payment systems on agency behavior, output, and services.

RPAD 506 Foundations of Public Management (4)

An introduction to the theory and practice of public management. Topics include individual, group level, and organizational issues such as creating productive work environments, working within human resource systems, developing a learning organization, facilitating innovation, and managing across organizational boundaries. Cases and exercises will focus on practical applications of concepts covered.

RPAD 618 Public Personnel Administration (4)

Discussion of issues in public personnel administration, including such topics as merit staffing, classification and compensation, performance appraisal, affirmative action programs and labor-management relations. Both federal and New York State personnel systems are covered.

RPAD 622 Methods of Public Policy Analysis (4)

Application of quantitative methods to current public policy problems. A term project, conducted in teams and involving the use of quantitative methods is required. Involves reading and discussions of philosophy and methodology, class presentations of projects in process, interim written progress reports, and a final project report. Goals are the policy-analytic experience itself and increased sophistication in the application of qualitative methods.

RPAD 626 Evaluation of Public Sector Programs (4)

The practice of program evaluation in the public sector is the focus of this course. Topics covered include both quantitative and qualitative evaluation methods, data collection, conduct of evaluation in an organizational setting, and utilization of evaluation results.

RPUB 540 Urban Policy in the United States (4)

A research seminar on federal, state, and local policies toward the contemporary city. Evaluation of alternative conceptions of federalism, government intervention vs. market processes, and the political economy of growth. Case studies of current policy issues.

XII. Appendix A - Support, Approval and Transmittal Letters

1. Dean, School of Business
2. Dean, College of Arts & Sciences
3. Dean, College of Computing & Information
4. Chair, Department of Biological Sciences
5. Chair, Department of Computer Science
6. Chair, Department of Public Administration & Policy

UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY
State University of New York

March 23, 2009

Dr. Marjorie Pryse
Professor, Departments of English and Women's Studies
Dean of Graduate Studies
University at Albany
Albany, NY 12222

Dear Professor Pryse:

The School of Business at the University at Albany strongly supports the proposal from the Departments of Biology and Computer Science for a Certificate in Professional Science Management. We believe that this initiative is important and especially timely, in light of the recent economic downturn. It is important to note that the economic downturn has significantly lowered the opportunity cost of graduate professional education, which will increase the demand for such a certificate program.

The School of Business pledges to provide two types of support for this project. First, we will offer seats (capacity) to students (we talked about 6 students, initially) enrolled in the certificate program from the departments of Biology and Computer Science, without requiring compensation from the College of Arts and Sciences or the College of Computing and Information. We have also identified a staff member who will assist certificate program students in selecting business courses, in conjunction with their formal advisement in their home departments.

In sum, the School of Business at the University at Albany is deeply committed to this project and we are willing to allocate resources to this effort. We enthusiastically support this timely and critical initiative. Please feel free to contact me if you require any additional information.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Donald S. Siegel
Dean and Professor
School of Business
University at Albany, SUNY
1400 Washington Avenue
Albany, NY 12222
Tel: (518) 442-4910
DSiegel@uamail.albany.edu

To: Marjorie Pryse
        Dean of Graduate Studies

From: Edelgard Wulfert
        Dean, College of Arts and Sciences   E. Wulfert

Date: April 18, 2009

Re: Certificate in Professional Science Management

With this letter I am expressing my support for a proposal presented by the Department of Biological Sciences/CAS and the Department of Computer Science/CCI to establish a Certificate in Professional Science Management.

As explained in the 3-25-09 letter of Professor Zitomer, Chair of Biological Sciences, there is documented student interest in such a Certificate because it will further these students' professional goals. Also, the proposal is consistent with the department's academic priorities and it will be fully self-supporting and require no new resources.

The Certificate has been enthusiastically endorsed by the Chairs of the Department of Biological Sciences and the Department of Computer Science and the Deans of the School of Business and of the College of Computing and Information. It is my pleasure to join my colleagues in lending my support the establishment of a Certificate in Professional Science Management.

April 30, 2009

Dr. Marjorie Pryse
Dean of Graduate Studies
University at Albany/SUNY
1400 Washington Ave.
Albany, NY 12222

Dear Dean Pryse:

On behalf of the College of Computing & Information, I am pleased to endorse the proposal from the Departments of Computer Science and Biology and the School of Business to introduce an Advanced Graduate Certificate in Professional Science Management. This program will build on and be a good addition to the M.S. program in Computer Science. This proposal is squarely in line with the University's goal of offering advanced degree programs that help create an educated and informed workforce. I expect that the particular combination of computing and management principles in this certificate program will be an especially attractive option for students who wish to apply their technical expertise in a business setting. This combination should enable the university to attract motivated and talented students. Graduates of this program will have a competitive edge as they enter the workforce upon graduation.

This proposal has been reviewed by the other departments in the College of Computing & Information, and they are also enthusiastic supporters. I applaud the initiative that you and the other program designers have taken in developing this proposal. It has my enthusiastic support and backing. I look forward to seeing the program's approval and the first round of students entering the program.

Please contact me if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Peter A. Bloniarz
Dean

Cc: Prof. George Berg
        Dean Donald Siegel

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UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY
State University of New York

Professor Richard S. Zitomer
Chair, Department of Biological Sciences

To: Marjorie Pryse, Dean of Graduate Studies

From: Richard S. Zitomer, Chair of Biological Sciences

Date: March 25, 2009

Subject: Certificate in Professional Science Management Proposal

  This letter is to express my support for the Certificate in Professional Science Management PSM). You may use this letter in your efforts to coordinate the approval of the proposal.

  The Department of Biological Sciences has two terminal Master's programs, the Forensic and Biodiversity and Conservation programs, whose students would like to take a certificate in PSM. In the case of the Forensic program, a student survey indicated a number who would take the certificate if it were offered. These students aspire to the directorship of the operations of a forensic laboratory during their career which will include management of personnel and resources. The coursework will provide them with the necessary skills and the certificate with the credentials that will help them achieve this goal. The Biodiversity and Conservation students similarly aspire to manage environmental operations of companies or conservation organizations where the skills and certification of this program would be beneficial. Thus, the Department supports the implementation of this program, and Dr. Donald Orokos (of the Forensic Program) and Dr. Gary Kleppel (of the Biodiversity and Conservation Program) have both worked hard to bring it this far.

  The PSM program will be limited to the students already enrolled in the two programs which admit about 15 students per year combined. Only a subset will take the certificate; we estimate less than a half dozen in each class. Thus, we will not require any additional resources or full or part-time faculty lines to implement this program. Certificate students will be self-supporting.

UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY
State University of New York

College of Computing and Information
Computer Science Department

March 30, 2009

Dr. Marjorie Pryce
Dean of Graduate Studies
University at Albany

Dear Doctor Pryce:

On behalf of the Department of Computer Science at the University at Albany, I am proud to convey our strong and enthusiastic support of the proposal for the Advanced Certificate in Professional Science Management. The certificate program is a good idea in general at the university, and in particular complements the direction the Computer Science Department is taking in its own M.S. program. Together, the CS M.S. and the advanced certificate will open many doors for our graduates, allowing them to combine technical, business and other related skills into careers that would not otherwise be available to them.

The department appreciates that the nature of the proposed certificate also fits well the current environment at the university. In its present form, it will require no new faculty or other significant expansion of resources. And, the students in this program are expected to be self-supporting. These are consistent with our expectations for the program and for students who will pursue the certificate while in our M.S. program.

The depth of the department's support for this proposal is perhaps best indicated by the fact the two of our faculty, Professor Neil Murray and Associate Professor Mei-Hwa Chen have been involved in the development of the proposal for the certificate program. And, representing the department as chair, I fully support the program and the active role my colleagues have taken in its development. We also appreciate the active role you are taking in coordinating the preparation of the proposal and related materials.

Sincerely,

George Berg
Associate Professor and Chair

LI-67A, 1400 Washington Ave, Albany, NY 12222
Voice: 518/442-4267 Fax: 518/442-5638
Email: berg@cs.albany.edu

UNIVERSITY
AT ALBANY
State University of New York

Nelson A. Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy
Department of Public Administration and Policy
135 Western Avenue
Milne Hall, Room 101
Albany, New York 12222
PH: 518-442-5258 ▪ FX: 518-442-5298

October 20, 2009

Jonathan T. Bartow
Assistant Dean of Graduate Studies
Director of Graduate Academic Services & Policy
University at Albany – SUNY
Office of Graduate Studies, UAB 121
Albany, NY 12222

Dear Jon,

Thank you for your e-mail of October 20, 2009. Both Bob Purtell, Director of the Masters in Public Administration (MPA) Program, and I have both reviewed the proposed Advanced Graduate Certificate in Professional Science Management. We both agree that the proposed program is well-structured and fits nicely with the management and policy offerings in the Department of Public Administration and Policy. We would be happy to admit students from the participating departments to the courses outlined in the proposal, and we are committed to continuing in the advisory role that is outlined in the text, should the proposal be approved.

The Department of Public Administration and Policy fully supports this proposal and looks forward to its approval in the GAC and Senate. Please let me know if we can be helpful as the proposal moves through the approval process.

Sincerely,

R. Karl Rethemeyer
Assistant Professor & PhD Director