

FACULTY AGENDA ITEM

Date: 3/22/21

Submitted by: Roy Wohl

SUBJECT: Deletion of Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training

Description: This is a proposal to delete the B.S. in Athletic Training

Rationale: In 2015 the Strategic Alliance of Athletic Training, including the Board of Certification of Athletic Training, the Commission of Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE), the National Athletic Trainer's Association, and the National Athletic Trainer's Association Foundation determined that the professional degree for athletic training become a Master's degree. Therefore, Athletic Training as a profession was transitioning from being delivered at the Bachelors level to a Master's level. All students in Bachelor's level athletic training degree programs had to complete all requirements by May 2025.

This decision was not taken lightly. The Washburn University Athletic Training program had earned a reputation throughout the Midwest for its quality educational experiences, near 100% graduation and placement rates, and the development of highly trained and nationally certified athletic training graduates. In addition, our ten year accreditation cycle was expiring in May 2020 and seemed to be the perfect time to end the program and not incur further accreditation expenses. It was also felt that by extending the program for three more years to graduate a couple more cohorts, this would be putting these graduates at a distinct disadvantage when competing for jobs against Master's graduates already in the field. According to CAATE, being grandfathered into the profession in May 2020 with a Bachelor's degree would not be a qualification deterrent for future employment in the field. Plus, continuing the program would mean several more years of the aforementioned accreditation expenses. After careful and thorough consideration by the Kinesiology Department, with valuable input from the School of Nursing, the Department of Allied Health, as well as several community stakeholders representing various health care agencies, it was decided in the fall of 2017 that we could no longer continue to offer a Bachelor of Science degree in Athletic Training beyond the conclusion of its accreditation cycle in May 2020.

The demands of creating a Master's in Athletic Training were beyond our ability to implement. Needing additional dedicated faculty, expanded facilities, and more numerous local clinical opportunities were not possible to obtain and/or create. In addition, the ability to continuously enroll a minimum number of master's students year after year to keep the program viable, with the knowledge that several other Kansas universities were on a path to develop this new

degree, resulting in a more limited student pool, was felt to be obstacles that we would not be able to overcome.

A final teach out plan was submitted to the CAATE in May 2019 and outlined the steps we would be taking to provide for degree completion by May 2020 to accommodate any academic, personal, or extenuating circumstances which may cause to delay a student's graduation beyond May 2020. This was accepted by the CAATE in June 2019, with an understanding that if all remaining athletic training students graduated in May of 2020, the BS in Athletic Training program would be officially closed at that time. All remaining students completed their requirements, passed their Board of Certification exams and graduated in May 2020. On May 31, 2020 CAATE provided official written approval of the Washburn University Athletic Training Education Program closure.

Financial Implications: None

Proposed Effective Date: May 2020

Request for Action: Approval through WUBOR

Approved by: AAC *on date*

FAC on date

Faculty Senate on date

Attachments Yes No

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES PROGRAM DELETION FORM

	Chair's Signature	Recommendation		Review Date
Department	<u>Roy Wohl</u>	<u>Approve</u>		<u>2020-09-02</u>
Division	<u>Roy Wohl</u>	<u>Approve</u>		<u>2020-09-03</u>
Dept. of Educ.	<u>N/A</u>			
<small>(If relates to teacher certification program.)</small>				
Dean	<u>Laura Stephenson</u>	<u>Approve</u>		<u>2020-09-09</u>
Curriculum Committee	<u>Rebecca Meador</u>	<u>Approve</u>		<u>2020-09-28</u>
Accepted by CFC	<u>Michaela Saunders</u>	<u>Approve</u>		<u>2020-10-27</u>
CAS Faculty	<u>Michaela Saunders</u>	<u>Approve</u>		<u>2021-03-04</u>
Approved By:	Faculty Senate _____	University Faculty _____		WU Board of Regents _____

Program: Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training (CIP:)

1. Reason for this program deletion?

In 2015 the Strategic Alliance of Athletic Training, including the Board of Certification of Athletic Training, the Commission of Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE), the National Athletic Trainer's Association, and the National Athletic Trainer's Association Foundation determined that the professional degree for athletic training become a Master's degree. Therefore, Athletic Training as a profession was transitioning from being delivered at the Bachelors level to a Master's level. All students in Bachelor's level athletic training degree programs had to complete all requirements by May 2025.

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2. Complete description.

3. Is the program being deleted from the catalog being replaced with another program? No
If so, please explain.

4. Is the content of this program being distributed to another program? No

5. Does this change affect any other departments? Yes

Several departments contributed required Correlated courses to this degree, but since the number of Athletic Training majors taking these courses every semester was small, the closure of the degree program and corresponding elimination of these credit hours should be insignificant.