Emphasis in Poverty Studies- MPA degree

The College at Brockport, College Senate

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Resolution #25 2016-2017
College Senate

TO: Dr. Heidi Macpherson, College President
FROM: The College Senate: 05/1/17
RE: I. Formal Resolution (Act of Determination)
II. Recommendation (Urging the Fitness of)
III. Other, For Your Information (Notice, Request, Report, etc.)

SUBJ: Emphasis in Poverty Studies- MPA degree (#33_16-17GC)

Signed: ______________________________ Date: 6/14/2017
(Sharon Lubkemann Allen, 2016-17 College Senate President)

Please fill out the bottom portion and follow the distribution instructions at the end of this page.

TO: Dr. Sharon Lubkemann Allen, College Senate President
FROM: Dr. Heidi Macpherson, College President
RE: I. Decision and Action Taken on Formal Resolution (circle choice)
   a. Accepted
   b. Deferred for discussion with the Faculty Senate on ____/____/____
   c. Unacceptable for the reasons contained in the attached explanation

II, III. Response to Recommendation or Other/FYI
   a. Received and acknowledged ____/____/____
   b. Comment:

Signed: ______________________________ Date: 7/17/2017
(Dr. Heidi Macpherson, President, The College at Brockport)

DISTRIBUTION:
Upon approval, the College President will forward copies of resolutions to his/her staff who will, in turn, forward copies to their staff. The College Senate Office will post resolutions to the College Senate Web at http://www.brockport.edu/collegesenate/resolutions.
COLOVERSENSE OFFICE
RESOLUTION PROPOSAL COVER PAGE
DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: FEBRUARY 28
Incomplete proposals will be returned and proposals received after the deadline may not be reviewed until next semester.

INSTRUCTIONS
- Use committee guidelines available at brockport.edu/collegesenate/proposal.html.
- Prepare ONE complete document in Word format: include this proposal cover page, proposal, attachments and support letters from your department chair and dean if applicable.
- Locate the Resolution # and date this proposal will replace at our “Approved Resolutions” page on our Web site.
- Email completed proposal to senate@brockport.edu. (General Education Proposals and questions go to dlamphro@brockport.edu in the Vice Provost’s Office first.)
- Make revisions on the paperwork emailed to you from the Senate office that shows the assigned routing number on top. Submit updated document to senate@brockport.edu.
- Questions? Call the Senate office at 395-2586 or the appropriate committee chairperson.

1. PROPOSAL TITLE: Please be somewhat descriptive, i.e. Use a course number and/or title, indicate if for GED code, etc.

2. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL:
This proposal would add a new emphasis (concentration) in Poverty Studies to the graduate MPA degree.

3. WILL ADDITIONAL RESOURCES AFFECTING BUDGET BE NEEDED? __ NO __ YES

4. DESCRIBE ANY DATA RELATED TO STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT USED AS PART OF THE RATIONALE FOR THE REQUESTED SENATE ACTION.

5. HOW WILL THIS AFFECT TRANSFER STUDENTS:

6. ANTICIPATED EFFECTIVE DATE:

7. SUBMISSION & REVISION DATES: PLEASE DATE ALL REVISED DOCUMENTS TO AVOID CONFUSION.

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<th>First Submission</th>
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8. SUBMITTED BY: (contact person)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Celia Watt</td>
<td>PAD</td>
<td>5568</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cwatt@brockport.edu">cwatt@brockport.edu</a></td>
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9. COMMITTEES: (Senate office use only)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standing Committee</th>
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<th>Dates Forwarded</th>
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<tr>
<td>__ Executive Committee</td>
<td>Standing Committee</td>
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<td>__ Enrollment Planning &amp; Policies</td>
<td>Executive Committee</td>
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<td>__ Faculty &amp; Professional Staff Policies</td>
<td>Senate</td>
<td>4/10/17, 4/17/17, 5/1/17</td>
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<td>__ General Education &amp; Curriculum Policies</td>
<td>Passed GED's go to Vice Provost</td>
<td>6/12/17, 6/14/17</td>
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<td>X Graduate Curriculum &amp; Policies</td>
<td>College President</td>
<td>7/19/17</td>
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<td>__ Student Policies</td>
<td>OTHER</td>
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<td>__ Undergraduate Curriculum &amp; Policies</td>
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NOTES: Resolution #25

2014-2015
Department of Public Administration  
Proposed Emphasis in Poverty Studies

Program name: Public Administration  
Degree: MPA  
SED Program Code: 78813  
HEGIS Code Number: 2102

Rationale

Background
The Department of Public Administration is proposing a new emphasis (concentration) in Poverty Studies for its Master in Public Administration (MPA) degree. The emphasis in Poverty Studies will be in addition to the three emphases currently offered in the MPA program: Public Management, Health Care Management, Nonprofit Management, and Public Safety Management. The MPA program has about 200 matriculated students.

Rationale
We are proposing this new emphasis in Poverty Studies for several reasons:

- it is consistent with the department’s and the college’s mission (based on draft of 2017-2022 Strategic Plan)
- it provides an opportunity for MPA students to graduate with a more in-depth understanding of many of the issues they will be faced with when entering the local workforce. Approximately 80% of MPA alumni stay within a 100 miles of the College at Brockport upon graduation and therefore will need to be familiar with how the landscape affected by poverty will impact their careers as leaders and managers. According to the Special Update of Poverty and Self-Sufficiency in the Nine-County Greater Rochester Area report (2016) the Village of Brockport has a 25.1% poverty rate. Elsewhere in the region, (p. 5, 2016):
  
  - Poverty continues to grow in our 9-county region. The most current regional poverty rate is 14.3% (up from 13.2% noted in the first report). The region is now home to more than 167,600 people living below the federal poverty level.
  - Poverty within the City of Rochester continues to be extraordinary, with a rate of 33.8% (up from 31.1% in the first report).
  - Rochester continues to be the 5th poorest city in the United States, among the top 75 metropolitan areas.
  - Compared with cities its size, Rochester now ranks:
    - 2nd in overall poverty (33.8%);
    - 1st in child poverty (52.5%);
    - 1st in the rate of extreme poverty (below half the federal poverty level – 16.4%);
    - 1st in poverty rate for female-headed families in general and for female-headed families with children; (49% and 59.9% respectively); and
    - 2nd in poverty among individuals with less than a high school education (44%)

College’s and the Department’s Mission
The proposed emphasis is aligned with the College’s mission, vision, and value pillars as drafted in the 2017-2022 Strategic Plan (Retrieved from: https://www.brockport.edu/about/strategic_plan/docs/draft_strategic_plan_2017-01-23.pdf):

Mission - The College at Brockport is an inclusive learning community that inspires excellence through growth, engagement, and transformation.

Vision - The College at Brockport is committed to building meaningful lives through intellectual exploration, civic engagement, and personal growth.

Value Pillars
- Community
- Engagement
- Excellence
- Transformation

The emphasis naturally lends itself to student engagement with the communities’ commitment to addressing poverty and increasing economic development. In addition, the proposed emphasis is consistent with a college priority of developing new graduate programs. Finally, because MPA courses are offered in downtown Rochester, the proposed emphasis also furthers the College goal of strengthening the College at Brockport’s presence and visibility in the greater Rochester area.

The Department of Public Administration’s stated mission is to:

Prepare leaders and managers in public, health care, and nonprofit organizations. The program maintains close student faculty interaction that enables graduates to lead, participate, analyze, articulate, and communicate in public service:

Lead and manage in diverse organizational contexts.
Participate and contribute to public policy in the student’s chosen emphasis: Public, Health Care, or Non-Profit Management.
Analyze to make informed decisions.
Articulate the public service concerns associated with the distribution of scarce resources.
Communicate productively in settings characterized by diversity.

Market rationale
The MPA degree has traditionally been a management degree for those in the government sector. As the government sector—local, state, and federal—has changed over time, there has been an increasing reliance on and interdependence between and among all levels of government and the nonprofit sectors, resulting in a growth in the nonprofit sector, and the concomitant need for management skills in that sector. Many of our government social programs and nonprofit organizations’ foci address needs of those affected by poverty.

Currently, in the nine county area there are numerous coordinated state, county, city, and nonprofit efforts to address poverty. It is imperative that the College at Brockport’s MPA graduates are given opportunities to be aware and skilled to address the issues and challenges related to poverty and contribute to solutions. One of the required courses will heavily rely on leaders of local initiatives coming into the classroom to discuss how their agencies are addressing poverty locally. This is great exposure for both the college and networking for the students. Finally, even if an MPA student decides not to get their emphasis in Poverty Studies and Economic Development, the courses in the emphasis can be taken as electives. (All MPA students need three electives.)

No other local college offers a masters level management degree specializing in Poverty Studies. In a survey of current MPA students, we asked if an Emphasis in Poverty Studies had been a choice when they entered the program, would they have chosen it. Approximately one third of students answering the survey indicated that they would choose this option (n=28; 9 = Yes; 3=Maybe; 16=No). Finally, Dr. Leonard Brock, United Way Director of the Rochester Monroe Anti-Poverty Initiative has endorsed that this emphasis is a good fit for the
Department of Public Administration (he is also an alumnus of the MPA program) and that there is a need for this type of educational opportunity in this area (see included email).

**Quality**
The MPA program requires 39 graduate credits (13 courses). That will also apply for the proposed emphasis in Poverty Studies.

There is no change in admission requirements. Students admitted to the MPA degree for this emphasis, as for any of the emphases, must have a baccalaureate degree from an accredited four-year college or university with a minimum GPA of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale).

Student learning outcomes will be assessed in the same way that they are for the other MPA emphases.

**Financial Aid:** MPA students pursuing the emphasis in Poverty Studies will be able to take advantage of financial aid in the same way as all other MPA matriculated students.
Curriculum
Below are the core (required) courses for our current emphases and for the proposed emphasis in Poverty Studies and Economic Development:

### Comparison of MPA Core Courses by Emphasis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Courses</th>
<th>Public Management</th>
<th>Health Care Management*</th>
<th>Public Safety Management*</th>
<th>Nonprofit Management</th>
<th>Poverty Studies</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PAD640 Financial Management</td>
<td>PAD680 Public Policy</td>
<td>PAD682 Organizational Behavior</td>
<td>PAD685 Human Resource Management</td>
<td>PAD687 Statistics for Managers</td>
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<td></td>
<td>PAD688 Research and Program Evaluation</td>
<td>PAD696 Portfolio Seminar or PAD694 Internship Experience</td>
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<tr>
<td>PAD541 Foundations of Public Administration</td>
<td>PAD513 Health Care in America</td>
<td>PAD639 Cybersecurity for Public Managers</td>
<td>PAD546 Foundations of the Nonprofit Sector</td>
<td>PAD5XX Poverty Alleviation Initiatives</td>
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<tr>
<td>PAD683 Intergovernmental Relations</td>
<td>PAD677 Special Topics in Health Care</td>
<td>PAD6XX Disaster Recovery</td>
<td>PAD637 Marketing for Public Service Organizations</td>
<td>PAD603 Social Policy</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

In addition 3 elective courses (9 credits) are required. Students often take courses in other emphases for their elective courses.

*These reflect the emphasis courses currently under review by the college senate.

The required courses for the emphasis in Poverty Studies are intended to educate individuals for leadership and management positions with a heightened awareness of issues related to poverty. The courses are designed to be consistent with the curriculum requirements of our accrediting agency, the Network of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration, and align well with other curriculum in similar graduate programs across the country. One new graduate course will be required for the new emphasis: PAD 5XX Poverty Alleviation Initiatives. The course outline for that course is attached.

**Staffing**
The department will likely need one additional adjunct for one semester per academic year to teach PAD 5XX Poverty Alleviation Initiatives. Ideally, this would be a person extensively involved in local poverty alleviation initiatives that will provide networking opportunities for the college and students. Existing faculty will teach all other courses.

**Additional cost**
There are no anticipated additional costs to support this program other than the one adjunct course per academic year that may be needed.

**Effective Date**
The emphasis in Poverty Studies will be effective upon senate approval (two of the courses are already being offered as electives in the department).

**Academic Administration Commentary**
Letter of review/comment from interim Dean of School of Education and Human Services and Graduate School 2014-2015
• Included

Letter of review/comment from Department Chair
• Included
February 22, 2017

Graduate Curriculum Committee of the College Senate,

This letter is to support the new emphasis (concentration) in Poverty Studies to the graduate MPA degree in my role as Interim Dean, School of Education and Human Services and also in my role as Interim Dean, Graduate School. The new emphasis is consistent with the department’s and the College’s mission and it provides an opportunity for MPA students to graduate with a more in-depth understanding of many of the issues they will be faced with when entering the local workforce.

This proposal has my full support.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Thomas J. Hernández, EdD, LMHC
Interim Dean
The School of Education & Human Services
The Professional Education Unit
The Graduate School

350 New Campus Drive  •  Brockport, New York 14420-2957  •  (585) 395-2510  •  Fax (585) 395-2172  •  www.brockport.edu
February 16, 2017

Graduate Curriculum Committee of the College Senate,

This letter is to support the MPA Poverty Studies emphasis proposal. This emphasis, created with the guidance of professionals in the community and advisory board will be an asset to the college and community. Only one new course is needed to offer this important emphasis to MPA students.

Please let me know if you have questions.

Best,

[Signature]

Celisa A. Watt, Ph.D.
Professor and Chair, Department of Public Administration
Director, Institute for Poverty Studies and Economic Development
SUNY - The College at Brockport - MetroCenter
55 St. Paul Street
Rochester, NY 14604
Telephone: (585) 395-5568
Fax: (585) 395-2242
E-Mail: CWatt@Brockport.edu
Morning,

Absolutely, I think it's a good fit. Please let me know if there's anything I can do. Thank you for your leadership and continuous support.

Sent from Dr. Brook's iPhone

On Feb 27, 2017, at 8:17 AM, Watt, Celia <cwatt@brockport.edu> wrote:

Hi Leonard,

The College at Brockport's Department of Public Administration is considering offering an emphasis in Poverty Studies. As part of the consideration, we would like to know from your perspective if you believe the program is a good fit for this type of emphasis and if there is something our community could benefit from. Please reply as soon as possible since the proposal is due to our college senate today. (Sorry for such a last minute request!)

Thanks!

Dr. Watt

Celia A. Watt, Ph.D.
Professor and Chair, Department of Public Administration
Director, Institute for Poverty Studies and Economic Development
SUNY - The College at Brockport - MetroCenter
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This email message and any attachments are confidential. If you are not the intended recipient, please immediately reply to notify the sender and delete the message from your email system. Please consider the environment before printing this message.

Thank you.
United Way of Greater Rochester