

State Council of Higher Education for Virginia Agenda Item

Item: #II.H Academic Affairs – Review of Program Announcements from Public Institutions

Date of Meeting: March 22, 2021

Presenter: Dr. Joseph G. DeFilippo
Director of Academic Affairs & Planning
joedefilippo@schev.edu

Most Recent Review/Action:

- No previous Council review/action
 Previous review/action

Date:

Action:

Purpose of the Agenda Item:

The purpose of this agenda item is to present “Program Announcements” for new degree programs that public institutions plan to submit for SCHEV approval. The Program Announcement is a new feature of the SCHEV program approval process in accord with Council’s duty to “review and approve or disapprove all new undergraduate or graduate academic programs that any public institution of higher education proposes,” Code of Virginia § 23.1-203 (5).

Background Information/Summary of Major Elements:

Following Council approval in May 2019, SCHEV has instituted a set of modifications to its program approval process. These modifications include the creation of a two-stage system—first a Program Announcement, then the Program Proposal—for new degree programs.

The Program Announcement stage is intended to serve three primary purposes:

- to alert the Academic Affairs Committee of new degree programs well before they are presented by staff for Council action;
- to give Committee members the opportunity to raise questions and requests for further information that can be incorporated into the full proposal; and
- to provide advance notice to other institutions of higher education so they can comment on issues related to program duplication.

Materials Provided:

Table of Program Announcements

Appendix: Program Announcements from Public Institutions, September 2020

Financial Impact: N/A

Timetable for Further Review/Action:

For programs announced here, proposals may be submitted for full review by June 1, 2021. Proposals submitted by that deadline will be reviewed by staff for Council action at the October 2021 meeting.

Relationship to Goals of The Virginia Plan for Higher Education:

Council's consideration of this agenda item supports the following strategies outlined in *Pathways to Opportunity: The Virginia Plan for Higher Education*:

- Cultivate affordable postsecondary education pathways for traditional, non-traditional and returning students.
- Foster program and administrative innovations that enhance quality, promote collaboration and improve efficiency.
- Improve the alignment between post-secondary academic programs and labor market outcomes.

Resolution: N/A

Table of Program Announcements

The table lists the Program Announcements included in this agenda item, by institution and level; institutions with similar existent programs are also indicated.

	Insti-tution	Program	CIP	Institutions with Similar Programs	Page
	JMU	BS in Information Technology	11.0103	GMU, NSU, ODU	1
	UVA	BA in Computer Science	11.0701	Longwood, W&M	5
	UVA	PhD in Data Science	30.0701	—	10
	VCU	BA in Human Development and Family Education	19.0701	GMU, VT	14
	VSU	BS in Sport Management	31.0504	JMU, ODU, Radford (GMU proposal under review by SCHEV)	19