

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

Committee on Academic and Workforce Success

AGENDA ITEM V-D (1)

Consideration of adopting the staff recommendation to the Committee relating to the request from Tarleton State University for a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree with a major in Criminal Justice

RECOMMENDATION: Approval, beginning fall 2019

Rationale:

Tarleton State University (Tarleton) proposes to offer a Criminal Justice doctoral program leading to the PhD beginning in fall 2019 at its Southwest Metroplex Center in Fort Worth. The proposed program would cater to working professionals and emphasize professional practice, while also educating future academics. The proposed program would be offered face-to-face on the weekends to attract professionals working in the criminal justice field. Of note, the institution would award experiential credits to students with extensive professional experience and training.

Tarleton indicates there is a need for additional education and training for criminal justice practitioners such as police officers, probation and parole officers, correction officers, and child protective services investigators. The workforce need for additional criminal justice faculty in Texas is moderate. However in 2017, Texas public institutions produced 27 fewer graduates than available criminal justice faculty positions.

The proposed program would be the first PhD offered by the institution. Tarleton has offered the Doctor of Education (EdD) in Education Leadership since 1998. The institution has successful existing masters and baccalaureate programs in criminal justice to support the proposed PhD program. Resources, including faculty, from the existing criminal justice programs would be reallocated to the proposed doctoral program.

Recommendations:

In accordance with the institution's proposed hiring schedule, Tarleton will hire four additional faculty members. One faculty member will be hired each year starting in fall 2019, 2021, 2020, and 2022. By June 1 of each of these years, the institution will provide documentation of the hires through submission of a letters of intent, curricula vitae, and list of courses to be taught.

The institution will submit five Annual Progress Reports confirming institutional commitments and assessing the progress of program implementation.

Tarleton State University (*Accountability Peer Group: Comprehensive*)

Completion Measures	Institution	State	
<i>Graduate</i>	Master's 5-Year Graduation Rate	60%	77.2%
	Doctoral 10-Year Graduation Rate	68.4%	60.4%
<i>Status of Recently Approved Doctoral Programs</i>	The institution has met its projected enrollments for all new doctoral program(s) approved in the last five years:	Yes	No <i>N/A</i>
	The institution has offered a Doctor of Education (EdD) since 1998.		
	The institution has met its resource commitments for new doctoral program(s) approved in the last five years:	Yes	No <i>N/A</i>

Proposed Program:

Tarleton proposes to offer a PhD program beginning in fall 2019 with an incoming class of nine students in Year 1 and increasing to an entering class size of 21 in Year 5. The proposed program would be offered at Tarleton's Southwest Metroplex Center in Fort Worth. Admission to the proposed program would require a master's degree in criminal justice; however, interested students could complete the master's degree program in criminal justice and seamlessly enter the doctoral program. The proposed program would focus on attracting students who are working professionals in the criminal justice field. The proposed PhD would require 57 semester credit hours (SCH) beyond the master's. The required SCH are comparable to other PhD programs in Texas. For the first five years, courses would be offered only on weekends and students would be limited to 6 SCH per semester.

The proposed curriculum is a mix of required classes, including courses in criminology, research, statistical methods, and the criminal justice system; prescribed electives, including courses in evaluation, communities and crime, crime mapping, forecasting and data analysis; and electives focused on a variety of current topics, including crime and public policy, and victimology. The required coursework in the proposed program is comparable to other criminal justice programs in Texas and the nation.

Tarleton would offer credit for prior work experience in the criminal justice field. Students would demonstrate competency through a professional portfolio. The admissions committee would assess the portfolio and match the work to the program's learning objectives. If a student is able to demonstrate competence in an area, Tarleton would reduce the number of required credit hours accordingly.

The institution would draw in its existing faculty to begin the program and has identified eight core faculty and 11 support faculty to be dedicated to the proposed program. While many of the students entering the proposed program would be working professionals, the institution has committed \$160,000 annually to be used for student support. The institution estimates that five-year costs for the proposed program would total \$4,825,970.

Existing Programs:

There are five public universities offering doctoral programs in criminology, criminal justice, or a related field in Texas. There are three programs that offer a program in the same area as the proposed program: Sam Houston State University (Huntsville), Texas Southern University (Houston), and Texas State University (San Marcos).

Public Universities:

- Prairie View A&M University, Juvenile Justice
- Sam Houston State University, Criminal Justice
- Texas Southern University, Administration of Justice
- Texas State University, Criminal Justice
- The University of Texas at Dallas, Criminology

One program is located within a 60 mile radius; however, the criminology program offered by The University of Texas at Dallas is focused on the theoretical aspects of crime. The proposed program would focus exclusively on criminal justice and target the working professional. The nearest similar program is offered by Texas State University and is located 220 miles from the proposed program.

In 2017, there were a total of 92 declared majors in criminal justice doctoral programs at the three public universities that offer similar programs.

Start-Up Projections:	Yr. 1	Yr. 2	Yr. 3	Yr. 4	Yr. 5
<i>Students Enrolled</i>	9	17	29	39	49
<i>Graduates</i>	0	0	5	8	12
<i>Avg. Financial Assistance</i>	\$18,070	\$18,070	\$18,070	\$18,070	\$18,070
<i>Students Assisted</i>	17	17	17	17	17
<i>Core Faculty (FTE)</i>	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.9
<i>Total Costs</i>	\$951,594	\$956,594	\$961,594	\$978,094	\$978,094
<i>Total Funding</i>	\$920,393	\$959,885	\$1,037,837	\$980,159	\$1,036,930
<i>% From Formula Funding</i>	0	0	6%	18%	17%

Estimated Five-Year Costs	
Personnel	
Faculty	\$ 3,114,495
Graduate Assistants	\$ 1,570,975
Clerical/Staff	\$ 115,500
Supplies & Materials	\$ 10,000
Library & IT Resources	\$ 15,000
Total	\$ 4,825,970

Estimated Five-Year Funding	
Formula Funding (Years 3-5 Only)	\$ 419,751
Reallocated Funds	\$ 3,114,495
Tuition and Fees	\$ 626,958
Other (TAMUS Chancellor's Research Initiative)	\$ 774,000
Total	\$ 4,935,204

Major Commitments:

In accordance with the institution's proposed hiring schedule, Tarleton will hire four additional faculty members. One faculty member will be hired each year starting in fall 2019, 2021, 2020, and 2022. By June 1 of each of these years, the institution will provide documentation of the hires through submission of a letter of intent, curriculum vitae, and list of courses to be taught.

Formula funding for courses is dependent on having the appropriate hires in place at the specified times.

The institution shall submit five annual reports confirming institutional commitments and assessing the progress of program implementation.

Dr. Rex C. Peebles, Assistant Commissioner for Academic Quality and Workforce, will present this item and be available to answer questions.