

News Release

UMC gets go ahead to deliver third online degree

By Elizabeth Tollefson on Monday, March 13, 2006

Crookston, MN—University of Minnesota Board of Regents approved the University of Minnesota Crookston's (UMC) request to deliver a third degree entirely online. The Bachelor of Science in Business (BSB), a 4-year degree that is career-oriented was approved for online delivery on Friday at the Board of Regents meeting in Minneapolis. The BSB degree prepares graduates with the know-how to effectively and efficiently manage people, methods, materials, equipment, and money. The Bachelor of Science in Business was approved last week for online delivery and awaits higher learning commission accreditation approval.

Dr. Susan Brorson, Academic Department Head, Business, says this is an important addition to the curriculum available to students that wish to pursue a degree in business but would find physically attending full-time in Crookston a challenge, "the online mode of delivery will allow us to respond to needs of individual students as well as corporate clients that are embracing the Internet as an educational option. Our Business Department faculty has been delivering classes online for a number of years, and this approval will now allow us to deliver all of the comprehensive components of a Bachelor of Science in Business degree." UMC is the only campus in the U of M system that is delivering undergraduate degrees online. Once accredited by the Higher Learning Commission this and the other two degrees online at UMC will serve new audiences not able to physically attend a traditional on campus class.

"This will build the capacity of individuals in the region to provide leadership for the future economic vitality of the region. This is another example of how UMC is adding value to the region," said UMC's Chancellor, Chuck Casey. UMC's online enrollment has grown over 151% in the past four years. UMC's online offerings have grown from just a handful of online courses each semester to nearly 40 courses, and now two additional degrees the Bachelor of Manufacturing Management and Bachelor of Science in Business degrees too are approved by U of M Board of Regents for online delivery.

This approval grants UMC the opportunity to deliver 3- four year degrees online. The BSB and the BMM degrees await Higher Learning Commission accreditation while the current accredited Bachelor of Applied Health degree online continues to grow in enrollment.

To learn more about UMC's online degree(s) and courseware, please log onto the Center for Adult Learning website.

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