

UNIVERSITY OF  
**NORTHERN COLORADO**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES AGENDA ITEM**

Meeting Date: February 11, 2022

Action Item     Discussion Item     Information Item

<b>Name of Item:</b>	<b>New Health Science B.S. Degree</b>
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Responsible Staff Member: Lisa Vollendorf, Interim Provost

**Summary of Issue:** New Health Science B.S. Degree in the College of Natural and Health Sciences, with emphases in Healthcare Administration and Public Health

Recommended Action by BOT:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approval <input type="checkbox"/> No Action Needed
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Change to Board Policy Manual:	<input type="checkbox"/> Approval <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Action Needed
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If yes, Section:
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**Administrative Recommendation (Motion):**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Vice President

2/2/2022  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of President

02/02/2022  
Date



UNIVERSITY OF  
NORTHERN  
COLORADO

Office of the Provost

**Board of Trustees - Action Item**  
**New Health Science B.S. Degree**  
**February 11, 2022**

**Summary of Change:** New Health Science B.S. Degree in the College of Natural and Health Sciences, with emphases in Healthcare Administration and Public Health

**Background:** UNC's College of Natural and Health Sciences houses a highly competitive nursing program. UNC also requires all students declare a major by 30 credits, and federal rules require students to be completing coursework in their major program of study in order to receive financial aid. Students seeking admission to our nursing program often struggle to identify an alternate major toward which they can be making progress (and hence qualify for financial aid) while completing courses required for admission to the nursing program. In addition, many well-qualified students do not get admitted into the nursing program and seek transfer elsewhere, but might be *retained* at UNC as they have a clear path to graduation in their desired field.

**Rationale:** The general discipline of Health Sciences is a rapidly growing field with a multitude of jobs that appeal to this generation of college student's desire to give back to and serve in the communities in which they live. The major in Health Sciences has been designed both to serve as the starting point for students who enroll at UNC with desire to apply for and complete the highly sought-after nursing degree (providing them with a clear and guaranteed path to graduation and a career in a health care setting even if they are not successful in securing admission to nursing), and to *attract* students to attend UNC to learn about the health care field and to fill the many available jobs in that industry outside nursing. After completing a common core of coursework (all of which also fulfill the pre-requisites required for admission to the nursing degree), students will have the option to choose one of two emphases: Healthcare Administration or Public Health.

- The emphasis in Health Care Administration represents a new and unique collaboration with the Monfort College of Business and was created with their input throughout the process.
- The Public Health Emphasis will also serve as a natural pipeline to the Master's Degree in Public Health offered through the Colorado School of Public Health (which is a collaboration between UNC, the CU/Anschutz medical campus and CSU).

Neither emphasis program competes with or replaces any other degree programs offered in NHS, and the Health Science B.S. degree draws entirely from existing coursework offered in our

various NHS disciplines. Hence, no new instructional or other resources are required. This will be a truly interdisciplinary major in the college of NHS.

Academic Affairs has notified HLC of our intent to offer these programs and received assurance that no further HLC approval is required. The programs have been fully approved through the curriculum process as outlined in University Regulation Title 3, Article 3, part 5. They now require approval by the Board of Trustees prior to notification of the CDHE. We are recommending these changes be approved for Academic Year 2022/2023.

UNIVERSITY OF  
**NORTHERN COLORADO**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES AGENDA ITEM**

Meeting Date: February 11, 2022

Action Item     Discussion Item     Information Item

**Name of Item:**

**New B.F.A. Degrees**

Responsible Staff Member: Lisa Vollendorf, Interim Provost

**Summary of Issue:** New B.F.A. Degrees in the School of Theatre Arts and Dance, College of Performing and Visual Arts

Recommended Action by BOT:     Approval     No Action Needed


Change to Board Policy Manual:     Approval     No Action Needed

If yes, Section:

**Administrative Recommendation (Motion):**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Vice President

2/2/2022  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of President

02/02/2022  
Date



UNIVERSITY OF  
**NORTHERN**  
**COLORADO**

Office of the Provost

**Board of Trustees - Action Item**

**New B.F.A. Degrees**

**February 11, 2022**

**Summary of Change:** New B.F.A. Degrees in the School of Theatre Arts and Dance, College of Performing and Visual Arts

- Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in Acting (CIP Code 500501)
- Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in Theatre Design/Technology
- Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in Musical Theatre

**Background:** The School of Theatre Arts and Dance (STAD) currently offers two degree programs: a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Musical Theatre, and a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Theatre Arts. Students in the Theatre Arts program are currently expected to choose one of three possible tracks: a general Theatre Studies track, a Design/Technology track, or an Acting Track. Both the Musical Theatre B.A. and the Design & Technology and Acting Tracks of the Theatre Arts B.A. are programs of prestige at UNC, with great selectivity, including required additions for full admission to the major, and high retention rates.

**Rationale:** Conversations with external accreditors (NAST) revealed that the coursework required by the Musical Theatre B.A. and the Acting and Design/Technology Tracks of the Theatre Arts B.A. were sufficient to fulfill the requirements for a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree with little or no revision. Conversations with the Office of Admissions revealed that many performing arts students do not apply to UNC, or choose an alternative institution even after being admitted to UNC, because of their preference for a B.F.A. credential. Elevating these programs to B.F.A. status will enable our students to be even more competitive when seeking professional employment or admission to graduate programs in the performing arts.

Although these programs require very minimal revisions to our current curriculum and no additional instructional or other resources, they are technically new degree programs as UNC has not previously offered a B.F.A. option. Academic Affairs has notified HLC of our intent to convert these programs from B.A.s to B.F.A.s and received assurance that no further HLC approval is required. The programs have been fully approved through the curriculum process as outlined in University Regulation Title 3, Article 3, part 5. They now require approval by the Board of Trustees prior to notification of the CDHE. We are recommending these changes be approved for Academic Year 2022/2023.

Note, upon approval of these three B.F.A.s, UNC will discontinue our Musical Theatre B.A. (offering the Musical Theatre B.F.A., only). We will continue to offer a B.A. in Theatre Arts with two emphases

1. a Theatre Studies emphasis for non-performance students with a general interest in theatre, and
2. a K-12 Drama Teaching Emphasis for students pursuing Teacher Licensure for grades K-12