



Special Called Meeting
October 31, 2023
12:30 pm

Action Item

- BOT-2 Tuition Differential Requests
- 2.1 School of Nursing - New Master of Science in Nursing Degree – Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) Concentration
 - 2.2 School of Health and Human Sciences - Joint Programs in Social Work
 - 2.3 School of Education Department of Information, Library, and Research Sciences
 - a. MS in Instructional Technology and Design
 - b. Post Baccalaureate Certificate in Instructional Design

Background Information

In February 2003, the Board of Governors adopted a new tuition and fee policy permitting differential tuition assessments for graduate programs, stating that "Graduate and professional schools should establish rates consistent with each program's unique market and academic requirements." Guidance received from the UNC System Office on September 18, 2023, reaffirmed the policy, and added, "Tuition for graduate and professional students will be set with an emphasis on maintaining and increasing the excellence of the institution's graduate and professional programs, as well as ensuring access. Proposals for increases must justify both the need for the increase and why it is not expected to negatively impact enrollment." At UNCG, academic leaders have generally considered tuition differentials only for graduate programs with high demand and high instructional costs. Proposed tuition differentials that are consistent with the Board of Governors' policy and recommended by an institution's Chancellor and the institutional Board of Trustees will be presented to the President and Board of Governors for final approval.

Differential tuition proposals submitted by UNCG's School of Nursing, Health and Human Sciences, and School of Education are recommended by Chancellor Gilliam. Summaries of these four requests are presented here.

School of Nursing: New Master of Science in Nursing Degree – Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) Concentration

The School of Nursing (SON) is requesting approval of a \$2,000 tuition differential per student per academic year. This amount is in keeping with the tuition differential that is currently charged to our Adult Gerontological Primary Care Nurse Practitioner (AGPCNP) students.

The SON Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) concentration was developed in response to the ongoing nationally recognized primary care nursing workforce shortage to speed entry of FNPs into the workforce. The FNP concentration delivers 44 credit hours over five semesters. At \$2,000/student, we anticipate revenues of \$158,000 in the first year and \$160,000 in subsequent years. That revenue will partially support faculty lines, recurring operational expenses for lab/simulation supplies, contracted services, equipment, recruitment of faculty, students, and preceptors, preceptor training and incentives, and graduate assistantships.

Even with the proposed tuition differential, UNCG's SON FNP concentration is still one of the most cost-effective programs in the state.

School of Health and Human Sciences: Joint Programs in Social Work (JPSW)

The Department of Social Work within UNCG's School of Health and Human Sciences seeks approval for differential tuition, effective Fall 2024, for the Joint Programs in Social Work (JPSW), including both the master's (JMSW) and doctorate (JPhD) degrees. The proposal is timely given challenges the simultaneously escalating demand for our students and increased costs associated with running clinical master's degree and doctoral degree programs.

We propose a \$2,000 differential tuition per student at UNCG to meet our program needs. The \$2,000 charge works out to be approximately \$83/credit hour for JMSW students and \$167/credit hour for JPhD students. On average, we anticipate generating \$156,000 annually at UNCG.

North Carolina A&T (NCAT) is our joint partner and students in the joint program pay the same tuition amount regardless of their assigned home institution. The home institution is responsible for tuition and fees for its assigned students and the differential tuition will assist institutions in equalizing tuition and fees. The administration at NCAT is supportive of the \$2,000 differential charge being added to UNCG and NCAT students.

The revenue data in this proposal will only focus on students assigned to UNCG as their home institution.

School of Education: Department of Information, Library, and Research Sciences (MS and PBC in Instructional Technology and Design Programs)

The ILRS Department has submitted two differential tuition proposals.

a. MS in Instructional Technology and Design. The MS in Instructional Technology and Design (ITD) at UNCG prepares students to become training and developmental specialists in a variety of sectors (e.g., K-12, healthcare, government, higher education, corporate). The Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts 7.2-8.1% growth for related positions at the national level through 2031. In NC in particular, a 12% growth rate is predicted in these careers by 2028. Meeting the growing demand for ITD professionals requires extensive, hands-on training in instructional design authoring tools as well as in emerging instructional and communication technologies. This is an initial request for differential tuition for the ITD program to enhance the technology available to online learners and account for the increasing cost of providing high-tech training to ITD students. This request is for a \$25.00 per student credit hour (SCH) increase, for an increased total cost of \$825 for the 33-hour degree. If approved, this differential tuition will ultimately generate an estimated \$15,000 per year (by year 2026-2027). These funds will be used to purchase technology licenses for ID content authoring tools as well as contribute to stipend packages to support appropriate graduate assistant positions that will help provide research and instructional support. This proposal preserves the cost effectiveness of the ITD program while allowing us to significantly improve instruction in emerging instructional technologies.

b. Post Baccalaureate Certificate in Instructional Design. Similar to the MS-ITD program, the Post Baccalaureate Certificate (PBC) in instructional design (ID) helps prepare students for careers in training and development in a variety of sectors (e.g., higher education, healthcare, government, corporate). The PBC-ID was launched in 2021 and requires 12 credit hours. These credit hours correspond to courses required of the master's in science in Instructional Technology and Design (MS-ITD). The MS-ITD and the PBC-ID are "stackable programs", whereby students who complete the PBC-ID may apply these courses towards completion of the MS-ITD. This is a request for differential tuition for the PBC-ID program of \$25 per student credit hour (SCH) for an increased total cost of \$300 for the certificate. If approved, this differential tuition will ultimately generate an estimated \$7,500 per year (by year 2026-2027). These funds will be used to purchase technology licenses for ID content authoring tools as well as contribute to stipend packages to support appropriate graduate assistant positions that will help provide research and instructional support to certificate students. This proposal preserves the cost effectiveness of the PBC-ID program while allowing us to significantly improve instruction in emerging instructional technologies.

Attached Documents:

- 2.1 School of Nursing - New Master of Science in Nursing Degree – Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) Concentration
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Recommended Action

That the Board of Trustees of The University of North Carolina at Greensboro approve the requested tuition differential charges for 2024-2025 as presented.

Debbie Storrs

Debbie Storrs
Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor