Proposal for the Initiation of a

Master of Science in Business

The College of Business proposes a Master of Science in Business (MSB) that will provide students a focused exploration of a specific business discipline or topic. The proposed degree program requires 45 credit hours of existing coursework (no new courses are required): five (5) courses of general business foundational knowledge (equivalent to the core-1 coursework in the existing MBA degree program) for 15 credits, and 30 credits offered within two specializations: Financial Planning and Supply Chain Analytics.

Financial Planning encompasses individual wealth management planning including such topics as tax planning, estate planning, insurance, retirement planning, and portfolio allocation. An MSB in Financial Planning leads to a candidate earning a Certified Financial Planning designation.

An MSB in Supply Chain Analytics is a combination of the disciplines of Supply Chain and Logistics Management and Business Analytics. Supply Chain and Logistics Management develops a solid mastery of international operations, logistics, and supply chain management concepts and methods. Business Analytics leverages advances in software interoperability, data exchange mechanisms and data mining and visualization techniques to better understand their operations, customers, and markets enabling graduates to manage internal operations and global supply chains in the manufacturing and service sectors and in government agencies. The combination of these two disciplines into Supply Chain Analytics is a unique focus on the uses of data management and data analytics to explore the characteristics of supply chains and identify value-enhancing efficiencies.

The business Core-1 courses are currently offered face-to-face in Corvallis and fully online (through Extended Campus). The MSB in Financial Planning will be offered via Extended Campus as a hybrid program in Portland. The MSB in Supply Chain Analytics will be offered on-campus in Corvallis and via Extended Campus as a hybrid program in Portland. Coursework offered via Extended Campus in the "hybrid" format means 80 percent online and 20 percent face-to-face.

Similar to the existing MBA degree, the MSB degree is non-thesis and will use an alternative summative assessment process to comply with OSU Graduate School and Graduate Council oral exam requirements.

Because the MSB relies entirely on existing courses, administration and infrastructure, it requires no additional resources. Applications and advising will be handled by our Graduate Program Office, and the program oversight and review will be included in the duties of the current Associate Dean for Graduate Student Development.