



THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

EDUCATION, RESEARCH, AND SERVICE COMMITTEE	
Friday, January 26, 2024	Special Meeting
8:45 a.m. EST/7:45 a.m. CST	Virtual/Knoxville, TN

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
- II. Remarks of the Chairperson
- III. Proposed Academic Program Modifications – Action/Roll CallTab 1
 - A. [Change in a Degree Designation to establish a Bachelor of Science in Public Affairs, UTK](#)Tab 1.1
 - B. [Change in the Degree Designation and CIP Code for the Master of Public Policy and Administration, UTK](#)Tab 1.2
- IV. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

Appendix – Supplemental Materials

- Proposals – Academic Program Modifications



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AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Meeting Date:	January 26, 2024
Committee:	Education, Research, and Service
Item:	<u>Academic Program Modification: Changing the Degree Designation for the Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Public Administration Major, to a Bachelor of Science in Public Affairs, UTK</u>
Type:	Action
Presenter:	John Zomchick, Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor, UTK

Background Information

Following approval by the Board of Trustees, the Tennessee Higher Education Commission approved the establishment of the Howard H. Baker Jr. School of Public Policy and Public Affairs (Baker School) at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, as a new stand-alone academic unit.

The University of Tennessee, Knoxville (UTK) seeks to: (i) move the existing Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Public Administration Major (BSBA) from the Department of Economics in the Haslam College of Business to the newly established Baker School; and (ii) change the academic degree designation of the existing BSBA degree to a Bachelor of Science in Public Affairs (BSPAf) to reflect an expanded core curriculum that includes public administration, public policy, government, economics, civics, and data analytics. The Haslam College of Business has agreed to this move.

For the 2023-2024 academic year, the Haslam College of Business will administer the existing BSBA degree program. The existing BSBA degree program will be supported by the Haslam College of Business for five years, until August 31, 2029, to allow any currently enrolled students to complete the BSBA option if they choose to do so. Students will no longer be admitted into the BSBA program after July 31, 2024. Subject to approval, the Baker School will fully administer the BSPAf program, beginning August 1, 2024.

The financial projections associated with the proposed modification were presented previously as part of UTK's request, in February 2023, to establish the Baker School as a new academic unit. The degree program costs include 1.0 faculty full-time equivalency (FTE) or 2.0 tenure-track faculty FTE. The Baker School will hire two new positions in



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FY 2024-2025 at a total annual cost of \$375,200 in salary and benefits beginning in FY 2025-2026. These are cost reallocations, not new costs, as these are pre-existing faculty who were employed by the Baker Center prior to becoming a new academic unit. As demand increases, additional sections of courses will likely be necessary, requiring additional faculty FTE.

Due to time considerations associated with the admissions cycle, including offering the new course in UTK's Fall 2024 Academic Catalog, the Baker School requests that the Executive Committee approve the aforementioned changes.

Committee Action

The Committee Chair will call for a motion to recommend adoption of the following Resolution by the Executive Committee.

Resolved:

The Executive Committee, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, hereby approves the following:

- 1. Subject to additional state approvals as required, the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, may: (i) move the existing Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Public Administration Major (BSBA) from the Department of Economics in the Haslam College of Business to the newly established Baker School; and (ii) change the academic degree designation of the existing BSBA degree to a Bachelor of Science in Public Affairs (BSPAf);**
- 2. The implementation date shall be effective upon final approval by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, with students first enrolling in the BSPAf program in Fall 2024; and**
- 3. The proper officers of the University are authorized to: (i) seek any state approvals as may be required; and (ii) take other actions as may be necessary and deemed appropriate to effectuate the successful implementation of the proposed academic program modification.**



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AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Meeting Date: January 26, 2024

Committee: Education, Research, and Service

Item: **Academic Program Modification: Change in the Degree Designation and CIP Code for the Master of Public Policy and Administration in order to offer a Master of Public Policy and Master of Public Administration, UTK**

Type: Action

Presenter: John Zomchick, Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor, UTK

Background Information

The University of Tennessee, Knoxville (UTK) seeks to modify the existing Master of Public Policy and Administration (MPPA, CIP Code 44.0501) degree program by separating it into: (i) a Master of Public Policy (MPP, CIP Code 44.0501) and (ii) a Master of Public Administration (MPA, CIP Code 44.0401). A distinct CIP Code shall be assigned to each program.

According to the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPPA), there are only nine MPPA programs nationally, three of which are accredited. The University's degree programs must reflect commonly recognized academic offerings; as such, the Baker School requests changing the academic degree designation to allow students to choose either an MPA or an MPP option. Of the NASPAA-accredited programs in the country, 85 percent are either MPA or MPP degrees. The proposed modifications are also necessary to support workforce needs and student demands. A final component of the proposed strategy will be to add fully online modalities of these programs for working professionals.

The existing MPPA program will be supported for five years until August 31, 2029, to allow any currently enrolled students to complete the MPPA degree should they choose to do so. All coursework required for the MPPA degree will continue to be offered during this period; however, new students will no longer be admitted to the program after December 31, 2023.



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The financial projections associated with the proposed modification were presented previously approved as part of UTK's request, in February 2023, to establish the Baker School as a new academic unit. These projections estimated faculty salaries and benefits to be ~\$1.5M for Year 1 (FY 2023-2024) and ~\$2.09M for Year 2 (FY 2024-2025) and provide the Baker School with a total of seven tenure-track faculty in addition to current employees who transitioned to the Baker School either in a tenure-track or non-tenure track capacity. All associated expenses are cost reallocations, not new costs, as these are existing faculty who were employed by the Baker Center prior to becoming a new academic unit.

Due to time considerations associated with the admissions cycle, including offering the new courses in UTK's Fall 2024 Academic Catalog, the Baker School requests that the Executive Committee approve the aforementioned changes.

Committee Action

The Committee Chair will call for a motion to recommend adoption of the following Resolution by the Executive Committee.

Resolved:

The Executive Committee, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, hereby approves the following:

- 1. Subject to additional state approvals as required, the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, may change the degree designation of the Master of Public Policy and Administration (MPPA, CIP Code 44.0501) by separating it into a Master of Public Policy (MPP, CIP Code 44.0501) and a Master of Public Administration (MPA, CIP Code 44.0401);**
- 2. The implementation date shall be effective upon final approval by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, with students first enrolling in either the MPA or MPP program in Fall 2024; and**
- 3. The proper officers of the University are authorized to: (i) seek any state approvals as may be required; and (ii) take other actions as may be necessary and deemed appropriate to effectuate the successful implementation of the proposed academic program modification.**