

Update to Academic Programs Plan Fall, 2016

Introduction: In Fall 2014 a year-long academic planning process undertaken with the help of Penson Associates consulting was completed, resulting in a plan for 8 new degrees to be developed in the short- mid- and long-term. Since that time progress has been made on degree development, and some degree programs have been developed at the WSU system level, changing the Vancouver campus plans and timelines for implementation. It is timely, therefore, to provide an update incorporating these changes, and addressing the call in the newly-adopted campus strategic plan to 1. implement the academic plan on a defined schedule; 2. consider new degree program opportunities arising outside of the existing academic plan.

The Penson report included three main elements: 1. a projection of current degrees with high and medium growth potential; 2. a list of high-demand majors offered by WSU but not currently offered at Vancouver, identified through national and local survey data; 3. 8 new degrees to be developed for implementation at Vancouver.

1. Growth in current degrees with high potential

The Penson report identified existing degree programs which have high or medium potential for growth. The following chart details the number of degrees granted in each of these degrees 2013-2015. While the overall trend is toward growth, with 6% more degrees granted across all bachelor's and master's programs in 2015 over 2013, there was not a significantly higher rate of growth in the identified high potential and medium potential programs. The group of identified high potential programs grew 4.8% overall, while the medium potential programs grew 6.7%. Two programs in the high potential group do show significant and consistent growth in this period: BS Electrical Engineering and BS Mechanical Engineering. In the medium potential group only the BA in Digital Technology and Culture shows consistent and significant growth.

	Number of Degrees Granted		Academic Year		
	2013	2014	2015		
High Potential					
BA in Business Administration	137	137	134		
BS in Electrical Engineering - Vancouver	19	31	33		
BS in Mechanical Engineering - Vancouver	38	44	53		
BS in Psychology	80	90	72		
Master of Business Administration	11	23	6		
MS in Mechanical Engineering	8	9	9		
Total	293	334	307	2-Year Growth	4.8%
Medium Potential					
BA in Anthropology	13	10	18		
BA in Digital Technology and Culture	38	40	56		
BA in Education	28	36	29		
BA in English	23	22	11		
BA in History	13	13	11		
BS in Biology	62	66	68		
BS in Computer Science - Vancouver	20	19	21		
BS in Earth & Environmental Science	0	0	6		
BS in Environmental Science	13	14	7		
MA in Anthropology	0	0	2		
MA in Education	1	0	0		
Master of Education	26	12	19		
Master in Teaching	32	23	38		
MS in Biology	0	0	1		
MS in Computer Science	1	5	4		
MS in Environmental Science	7	9	4		
MS in Mechanical Engineering	8	9	9		
Total	285	278	304	2-Year Growth	6.7%
Not Previously Identified for Growth Potential					
BA in Computer Science	1	0	0		
BA in Hospitality Business Management	0	0	3		
BA in Human Development	47	53	52		
BA in Humanities	12	13	16		
BA in Public Affairs	13	17	18		
BA in Social Sciences	112	83	106		
BA in Sociology	6	10	12		
BS in Neuroscience	0	2	5		
BS in Nursing	45	58	54		
MA in History	2	0	0		
Master of Accounting	8	6	6		
Master of Education (English Language Learners)	1	0	0		
Master of Nursing (APH)	0	1	5		
Master of Nursing (Comnty-Based/Pop Focused Care)	7	5	5		
Master of Nursing (Family Nurse Practitioner)	19	20	11		
Master of Nursing (Psych/Mental Hlth Nurse Pract)	10	4	0		
Master of Public Affairs	5	3	5		
MS in Zoology	0	0	1		
Doctor of Education	1	2	1		
Doctor of Education (Educational Leadership)	5	0	5		
Doctor of Nursing Practice (FNP)	0	0	2		
Doctor of Philosophy (American Studies)	0	0	1		
Doctor of Philosophy (Anthropology)	0	0	1		
Doctor of Philosophy (English)	0	0	2		
Doctor of Philosophy (Enviro and Nat Resource Sci)	0	0	1		
Doctor of Philosophy (Political Science)	0	1	0		
Doctor of Philosophy (Psychology)	0	2	0		
Total	294	280	312	2-Year Growth	6.1%

2. High-demand majors offered by WSU but not currently offered at Vancouver

The Penson report looked at national survey and local survey data and identified the most in-demand majors not currently offered in Vancouver as Communication, Chemistry and Mathematics.

In 2015-2016, proposals to extend the BA in Communication and the BS in Mathematics to Vancouver were approved by the Faculty Senate and the Board of Regents, then submitted to NWCCU for approval. Implementation of both majors is anticipated for Spring 2017.

In 2015-16, a BA in Chemistry was approved for the Pullman campus. The creation of the BA opens a pathway for Vancouver to extend the degree as it would not require the campus to add lab capacity, as would the existing BS degree; a feasibility study to extend the BA degree is currently underway.

3. 8 new degrees to be developed for implementation at Vancouver

The 8 new degree programs were divided into Near-term Implementation (2 years), Mid-term Implementation (4 years), and Longer-term Implementation (6 years). Because of developments internal to Vancouver and developments in the WSU system, the timeline has been adjusted.

Degree	Status	New proposed timeline
Near-term Implementation		
Master's in Mental Health and Human Services	still in development, with major changes to the format originally envisioned	Mid-term
MS Electrical Engineering	Approved by Senate & Regents spring 2016; awaiting NWCCU approval	Implement Spring 2017
Entrepreneurship major in the BA Business Administration	Proposal to extend the major to Vancouver approved by Senate & Regents spring 2016	Implement Fall 2016

Mid-term Implementation		
BS Software Engineering	Opportunity for a state budget funding request has arisen; proposal to create an option within Computer Science degree under development	Depending upon funding, proposal to be submitted 2016-17
BS Computer Engineering		remains unchanged
Longer-term Implementation		
BA Operations Analysis and Supply Chain	Opportunity for a state budget funding request has arisen; possible cooperation with Everett on delivery of degree. Proposal under discussion	Depending upon funding, proposal to be developed 2016-17, possible fall 2018 implementation
BS/MS Data Science	Degree developed with multi-campus participation. Approved for Pullman Spring 2016 (awaiting NWCCU approval). Existing degree has multiple options. One or more options may be extended to Vancouver	Possibly fall 2018 implementation
BS Environmental Engineering	Position funded through Grand Challenge reallocation to be located at Vancouver may jump-start this program	remains unchanged

Vancouver Strategic Plan 2016-2021

The new strategic plan calls for consideration of new degree program opportunities arising outside of the existing academic plan. The BA in Human Biology, a proposal developed in Pullman, is one such opportunity. If approved, it could easily be extended to Vancouver and would be attractive to students looking for a pre-med major.

See appendix.

Updated plan for new academic programs

The following chart represents the adjusted timeline for development and implementation of new degree proposals:

Degree	Status	Projected Implementation
Entrepreneurship major in BA Business Administration	Approved	Fall 2016
MS Electrical Engineering	Approved by Senate & Regents spring 2016; awaiting NWCCU approval	Fall 2017
BA Communication	Approved by Senate & Regents spring 2016; awaiting NWCCU approval	Spring 2017
BS Mathematics	Approved by Senate & Regents spring 2016; awaiting NWCCU approval	Spring 2017
BA Chemistry	Feasibility study to extend degree in process	Fall 2018
BA Human Biology	Proposal developed in Pullman to be submitted for approval	Fall 2018
BS Software Engineering	Opportunity for a state budget request has arisen; proposal to create an option within Computer Science degree under development	Depending upon funding, proposal to be submitted 2016-17; possible fall 2017 implementation
BA Operations Analysis and Supply Chain	Opportunity for a state budget request has arisen; possible cooperation with Everett on under discussion	Depending upon funding, proposal to be developed 2016-17, possible fall 2018 implementation
Master's in Mental Health and Human Services	still in development, with major changes to the format originally envisioned	Fall 2018
BS/MS Data Science	Degree developed with multi-campus participation. Approved for Pullman Spring 2016 (awaiting NWCCU approval). Existing degree has multiple options. One or more options may be extended to Vancouver	Possibly fall 2018 implementation
BS Computer Engineering		mid-term
BS Environmental Engineering	Position funded through Grand Challenge reallocation to be located at Vancouver may jump-start this program	longer-term

Appendix

Degree/minor/certificate proposals submitted

Degree/certificate	stage of process	Proposer	Timeline
Certificate and minor, Molecular Biosciences	proposal rejected by VCAA; currently being revised	John Bishop	resubmit Fall 2016
Certificate in Game Studies and Design	Currently under review	Dene Grigar	Resubmit Fall 2016

Potential new degrees/minors/certificates under discussion (not formally submitted or approved at any level)

Degree	Department(s)	Interested parties	Timeline
Professional Science and Technology Writing Certificate	ENGL	Wendy Olson	Approved for 2016 start
BS-Biology new option	SBS	John Bishop	Fall 17
BS-Zoology pre-med option	SBS	John Bishop	Fall 17
BS - Molecular Biology	SMB	John Bishop	2018 or later
Popular Culture minor	CCGRS	Luz Maria Gordillo	2017