DRAFT PROPOSAL – FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY

(11-18-09 w/ changes discussed in dept head mtg)

Master of Business Administration Degree

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Mission: The Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.) program serves the educational needs of the people of New Mexico by providing students with a graduate business program that provides students with a solid background in business practices, and the problem-solving and people skills needed to become successful leaders in the global business environment. Program graduates are prepared for administrative or managerial positions in a wide variety of organizations, both private and governmental. The M.B.A. program is accredited by AACSB International-The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must meet the basic admission requirements of the NMSU Graduate School before they are considered for admission to the M.B.A. program. To gain be considered for admission to the M.B.A. program, applicants must satisfy the following admission criteria:

1. Have one of the following:

   a. an undergraduate degree (from a university whose Business College has either AACSB or ACBSP accreditation) with either an overall cumulative GPA of 3.5, or a cumulative 3.5 GPA in the last 60 credit hours of an undergraduate degree, or

   b. a minimum combined GPA and GMAT score of 1050 based on this formula: GPA x 200 + GMAT (minimum Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) score of 400) and a combined undergraduate GPA x GMAT score of at least 680 (current score is 1400), (official GMAT scores must be submitted to the M.B.A. Program Office (ETS-code: 4531) at least one month prior to initial enrollment in the program), or

   c. a graduate degree from a regionally accredited college or university, or

   d. an undergraduate degree with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above, together with at least four years of relevant analytical work experience, and

2. Provide evidence of the required background knowledge as described below.

3. In addition, non-U.S. citizens must make a minimum score of 500 on the TOEFL exam to be admitted to the program.
Students who are lacking background knowledge in no more than two areas, but who otherwise satisfy all other requirements, may be admitted to the MBA program but must complete all background knowledge requirements in their first semester of coursework.

Background Knowledge

Although the MBA program is designed to encourage participation by students with a variety of educational backgrounds, the curriculum is fast paced and presumes some basic foundational knowledge and skills in specific core disciplines. As a consequence, a minimum level of background knowledge is expected of all entering students, and those who are lacking the necessary background in any of the knowledge areas indicated below will be required to make up their deficiencies before admission to the MBA program.

Demonstration of background knowledge is typically accomplished through 1. Successful completion (with a grade of A or B) of courses in eight core areas: (1) financial accounting, (2) macroeconomics, (3) statistics, and (4) calculus, and

2. Successful completion (with a grade of A or B) of courses in five areas: (5a) financial reporting, analysis and markets (equivalent to Finance 341), (6a) managerial accounting (equivalent to ACCT 251), (7a) principles of marketing (equivalent to MKT 303) and (8a) human behavior in organizations (equivalent to MGT 309). Alternatively, for core areas 5 through 8, in the alternative, students may demonstrate adequate knowledge of these core areas through examination or work experience.

Students who are lacking background knowledge in no more than two of the eight background knowledge areas, but who otherwise satisfy all other requirements, may be admitted to the MBA program but must complete all background knowledge requirements in their first semester of coursework.

Notes on issue of Mission (not to be included in document):

Carruthers question re: match up of mission w/ that of university and college:

University: New Mexico State University is the state's land-grant university, serving the educational needs of New Mexico's diverse population through comprehensive programs of education, research, extension education, and public service.
COB: Consistent with the mission of New Mexico State University, the College of Business serves the educational needs of New Mexico's diverse population through comprehensive programs of education, research, and public service.

I intentionally left out the diverse population language in the MBA mission because saying that the program would serve only the "educational needs of New Mexico's diverse population" suggests that our students would all come from New Mexico. While most do, I think by saying the program serves "the educational needs of New Mexico" it creates a more accurate message that we educate students from a variety of places and that creating this educated group of people serves the state's needs, even when some of the students are not New Mexico residence. An insignificant nuance perhaps.

Master of Business Administration Degree Requirements

Candidates for the Master of Business Administration degree must fulfill the requirements below.