



SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS  
COMMISSION ON COLLEGES

February 17, 2017

Dr. Christopher R.L. Blake  
President  
Middle Georgia State University  
100 University Parkway  
Macon, GA 31206

Dear Dr. Blake:

Thank you for your letter of August 30, 2016, transmitting a prospectus for the Master of Science in Management (M.S.M.) degree program to be offered, effective spring 2017.

The program, which is consistent with the mission of the University, will be based on the approved Warner Robins Campus. It is designed for students with business or engineering backgrounds who have moved or plan to move into middle-to-upper level management positions in for-profit or not-for-profit organizations. Initially, the program will be offered in face-to-face traditional methodology with online and/or hybrid courses developed as the program grows. The program focuses on the need for managers at the Robins Air Force Base, area CPA firms, the Port of Savannah, and the warehousing and distribution firms along the I-16 and I-75 corridors. A study in 2013 identified the need for graduate degrees at the University in nursing, accounting, and education. Appropriate planning for offering graduate level programs and for offering the M.S.M. degree program was described. Appropriate approvals were documented.

The program will contain the following concentrations: Accounting, Program Management, Supply Chain Management, and General Management. For accounting students, it will be possible to complete both the B.S.B.A. and the M.S.M. within a five year period. The accounting concentration also offers a path to complete the 150 credit hour requirement needed to become a Certified Public Accountant. The 31 credit hour requirements for each concentration, course descriptions, and prerequisites were provided. Admission and graduation requirements were described. Definitions and policies for determining level and amount of credit for courses and programs were provided.

Administrative oversight for the program will be provided by the M.S.M. Graduate Program Coordinator who will report to the Dean of the School of Business. Qualifications of faculty members scheduled to teach in the program along with their professional experience, publications, and professional activities were provided and appear appropriate to support the program.

Program goals and student learning outcomes for core courses and for concentrations were listed. Means of assessment of the student learning outcomes were listed along with the targeted level of performance. The assessment process is cyclical in nature and requires regular submission of assessment plans and reports. A description of the complete institutional process was provided. The Graduate Program Coordinator for the M.S.M. will oversee the assessment process and along with the Curriculum Committee will review and evaluate the assessment data. The School of Business Curriculum Committee is responsible for reviewing survey data and recommending improvement of the curriculum, student learning outcomes, and program goals.



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A list of discipline-specific learning resources to support the program was provided. Both undergraduate and graduate students have 24/7 access to electronic journals, magazines, newspaper, and e-book titles licensed by GALILEO. The library's webpage describes services and resources and includes an Ask-A-Librarian web link enabling students and faculty members to make inquiries via email. A chat reference option provides information in real time. Further, a link is provided to the Graduate Studies Librarian. On-site resources are also provided both at the main campus and the Warner Robins Campus. Interlibrary services are available.

The School of Business provides a tutoring center which will be expanded to include graduate students and the Writing Center is developing an online graduate writing tutorial service. Other student support services include technology assistance through the Technology Assistance Center, programs and activities, enrollment services, financial information to include availability of Graduate Assistantships, advising services, career services, a Graduate Student Advisory Council, and testing services.

Physical facilities include classroom space and faculty office space. Classrooms are equipped with computer, projectors and screens, and Smartboards. A computer lab that provides computers for each student is available. Offices contain computers with access to printers, scanners, and the internet. Financial support appears adequate as well.

The Board of Trustees of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges reviewed the materials seeking approval of the Master of Science in Management degree program. It was the decision of the Board to approve the program and include it in the scope of the current accreditation.

Enclosed is an invoice for \$500 to help defray the cost of review of the prospectus.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Belle S. Wheelan".

Belle S. Wheelan, Ph.D.  
President

BSW/ABC:iy

Enclosure

Cc: Mr. Andy Clark, Vice Provost for Academic and Institutional Quality  
Dr. Cheryl D. Cardell