WHEREAS, the Master of Science in Biomedical Technology Development and Management was established in 2009 as a joint program with Georgetown University; and

WHEREAS, the program enrolled five students per year the first two years and declined after that; and

WHEREAS, the last three students enrolled in the program in 2013 graduated in 2015; and

WHEREAS, no students have been enrolled in the program since 2015; and

WHEREAS, the curriculum is not included in any other degree program; and

WHEREAS, several primary faculty members associated with the program either left the program or the institution; and

WHEREAS, Georgetown University is not interested in pursuing continuation of the degree program.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Master of Science in Biomedical Technology Development and Management be discontinued effective Fall 2021, and the proposal forwarded to the President, the Board of Visitors, and the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) for approval, and to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) for notification.
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Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Proposed Intent to Discontinue

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech) requests to discontinue the Master of Science in (M.S.) Biomedical Technology Development and Management degree program (51.2006). The degree program is located in the College of Science.

Background

The M.S. in Biomedical Technology Development and Management degree was initiated in the Fall 2009. In the 2001-2006 strategic plan, the university identified ‘strategic partnerships with other institutions to enhance the university’s research and graduate programs’ as a key area of focus. This included providing unique graduate opportunities throughout the Commonwealth including the extended campuses and the National Capital Region in the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. The M.S. in Biomedical Technology Development and Management program (BTDM) was initiated as a joint Master of Science degree program between Virginia Tech and Georgetown University. The program was offered in the National Capital Region including both the Arlington and Falls Church sites. The program continued for a few years with limited enrollment. In 2015, the College of Science determined that the program would not meet its enrollment targets and must be discontinued.

Rationale for Intent to Discontinue

The M.S. in Biomedical Technology Development and Management degree program was initiated in 2009 as a joint program with Georgetown University in response to a unique and timely need to train students in medical product discovery and development. The program was initiated with five (5) students and maintained that for 2 years. However, in 2011 enrollment began to decline and did not improve during 2012 or 2013. In 2013, it was determined that the program would not be able to meet its enrollment targets. Additional factors impacting the low enrollment status of the program included: 1) primary faculty members associated with the program either left the program or the institution, 2) strategic priorities of the College of Science were placed in other areas, and 3) Georgetown University was not interested in continuing the partnership and/or pursuing continuation of the degree program.

Critical Shortage Area

The Master of Science (M.S.) in Biomedical Technology Development and Management degree program is not a critical shortage area. The curriculum is not included in any other degree program.

Teach-out Plan

In 2013, a total of 3 students were currently enrolled in the Master of Science (M.S.) in Biomedical Technology Development and Management degree program. All 3 students graduated in 2015.

There are no students currently in the program. The last student graduated from the program in Spring 2015.
Admissions have not accepted any students to the M.S. in Biomedical Technology Development and Management degree program since the 2016-2017 academic year.

“Stopped Out” Students
There are currently no students who have “stopped out” of the program.
March 3, 2021

To: Vice President of Policy and Governance

The Staff Senate Committee on Policy and Issues has reviewed and approves CGPSP Resolution 2020-2021C. We have no comment at this time.

Thank you,
LaTawnya Burleson, Chair Staff Senate Policies and Issues Committee