

ILLINOIS STATE
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TO: Susan Kalter, Chairperson, Academic Senate
FROM: Robert Quinlan, Chairperson, Graduate Curriculum Committee
RE: Executive Summary – Proposal for the New Master of Athletic Training from the School of Kinesiology and Recreation

The Graduate Curriculum Committee has approved and is forwarding for Academic Senate consideration the attached proposal from the School of Kinesiology and Recreation to add a new Master of Athletic Training.

The School of Kinesiology and Recreation provided a clear rationale for adding this new degree program:

- The Master of Athletic Training (MAT) program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE) and prepares graduates to become eligible to sit for the Board of Certification (BOC) exam to gain the Certified Athletic Trainer (ATC) credential.
- The Athletic Training Strategic Alliance, made up of the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education Programs (CAATE), Board of Certification (BOC), National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA), and NATA Research and Education Foundation, unanimously approved to change the professional degree in athletic training to the graduate level. Following the 2022-2023 academic year, all athletic training programs at the baccalaureate level in the United States must transition to the graduate level. This graduate program proposal is in response to the mandate from the Strategic Alliance, and following its implementation, will eliminate the undergraduate athletic training degree program. The proposal is designed to adhere to the current accreditation standards developed by the CAATE while still allowing the flexibility to adapt to the anticipated changes to the standards in the future.
- A secondary effect of this change will be the confusion between the proposed Master of Athletic Training program and our current Master of Science in Kinesiology and Recreation program with a sequence in athletic training. These two programs will attract different students since the MAT program will become the entry-point into the profession of athletic training. The post-professional M.S. in Kinesiology and Recreation is designed for students that already possess the ATC credential. The M.S. in Kinesiology and Recreation program continues to be a popular program and will continue to be offered.

The Graduate Curriculum Committee supports the proposal to add the new Master of Athletic Training.

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Attachments