

MEMORANDUM

May 20, 2019

To: FILE (SACSCOC Folder)
Dr. Christopher Blake, President MGA
Dr. Jon Anderson, Provost
Dr. Debra Matthews, Associate Provost for Policy (July 1, 2019)
Dr. Mary Wearn, Dean of Arts and Letters, (July 1, 2019)
Ms. Lee Ann Kirkland, Director of Financial Aid

Georgia Board of Regents, May 14, 2019, meeting) does not constitute a substantive change. This review process follows the required Substantive Change policy at MGA.

The University is a Level III institution that has been approved by the Commission on Colleges to offer associate, bachelors, and master's degrees. To date, MGA offers four master's degrees across four of its schools, as well as a graduate certificate in its one college. We have graduated over a hundred students across these disciplines and enroll on average 220 graduate students per semester.

This new master's degree will not require new graduate faculty and will work with the chair of English at the university Council of Graduate Studies and Office of Graduate Studies. A Graduate Admission Specialist, and a Director of Graduate Studies will be hired. The culture and practice of graduate education is well established at MGA. With robust enrollment growth, the regular hire of part-time faculty will be implemented. The curriculum and frees qualified faculty for graduate assignment. The program will attract award-winning scholars, teachers, and servant leaders highly engaged in the program. Robust student support, to include a highly regarded Writing Center.

No new facilities will be required. Its online classes will be built on existing infrastructure. A development specialist embedded within the School of Arts and Letters will be re-directed from advertising for the current graduate certificate program to the current graduate education advertising outreach. Although the five new classes in its curriculum, three of these classes are closely related to 4000-level courses in their respective departments (English and Media, Culture, and the Arts). The new classes do not constitute a significant departure. As an interdisciplinary degree, the program is highly experienced in graduate-like senior projects and research-based learning.