

Memorandum

To: University Senate

From: Jennifer Higginbotham, Co-Chair, Council on Academic Affairs

Subject: Proposal to Suspend the Masters of Business Engineering Logistics

Date: January 30, 2019

A PROPOSAL FROM THE COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS TO SUSPEND THE MASTERS OF BUSINESS ENGINEERING LOGISTICS (MBLE); FISHER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS; COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Whereas the MBLE program was launched in 2005, reached a high of 224 applications in 2012, but has since seen around a 50% decline in both applications and enrollments

Whereas the declines have been caused by increased competition from similar programs, the number of which has doubled from 40 to 80 between 2005 and 2019

Whereas declines have also resulted from the tightening of U.S. visa rules for overseas students, and the MBLE program had previously been highly attractive to students from China, who accounted for 91% of the 2019 admitted class

Whereas the program's estimated losses for the 2019-2020 year are estimated at \$300,000 and is no longer seen as financially viable by the offering academic units

Whereas the request for suspension will allow the 42 students currently enrolled to complete their degrees as planned and will result in no loss of faculty or staff positions

Whereas following review by the combined Graduate School/Council on Academic Affairs subcommittee on October 24, 2019, the proposal was approved by the Graduate Council on November 4th and subsequently reviewed and approved by the Council on Academic Affairs at its meeting on November 20, 2019

Therefore be it resolved that the University Senate approve the proposal to suspend the Masters of Business Engineering Logistics and respectfully request approval by the Board of Trustees.