Proposal

for a

Graduate Certificate in Homeland Security

in the

George Bush School of Government & Public Service

January 2005
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January 26, 2005

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. JOHN R. GIARDINO, DEAN OF GRADUATE STUDIES

FROM: Charles F. Hermann, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Bush School

SUBJECT: Proposal for Graduate Certificate in Homeland Security

The George Bush School of Government & Public Service seeks approval for a proposed graduate certificate program in Homeland Security and core courses that provide the foundation. The certificate program would require 15 credit hours of coursework offered as web-based instruction in a distance education mode. The certificate program would be under the direction of Dr. David H. McIntyre, a member of the faculty of the Bush School and the Director of the University's Integrated Homeland Security Center. Dr. McIntyre will have the support of Professor Jim Olson, the Director of the School's Certificate Programs and his staff.

The proposed certificate program draws upon the School's current experience with its Certificate in Advanced International Affairs in which 82 residential students are currently enrolled and another 121 are registered through distance education. Most of the students in this current certificate program are non-degree seeking, G-6 students at Texas A&M. We anticipate that most of the admitted students in the proposed Certificate in Homeland Security would also be admitted to the University in the G-6 category.

This proposed program responds to evident need for systematic academic instruction surveying the dimensions of homeland security and defense. Indicators of interest include the National Academic Consortium for Homeland Security consisting of over 180 colleges and universities including Texas A&M. Furthermore, several universities are offering resident courses of instruction in the area including Ohio State, George Washington University and the Naval Post Graduate School. More immediately, the Bush School's one current graduate course in homeland security has been over subscribed in each of the three semesters in which it has been offered. (The spring 2005 course reached its enrollment ceiling of 25 within hours of the beginning of graduate registration.) The Bush School has received inquiries about its proposed certificate program from the Texas National Guard.

We anticipate that the audience for the proposed certificate in Homeland Security will be current and future leaders, managers and supervisors at the federal, state and local levels as well as certain military officers and members of the business community who have been charged by their organization to manage some aspect of homeland security. Although some first responders may find the material relevant for their intellectual and professional growth, this graduate level instruction is not intended to compete with existing programs designed to provide hands-on training for addressing specific types of incidents.
As proposed, the Homeland Security Certificate will require students to take two required courses—a beginning overview course and a final supervised research paper undertaken as an independent study. Each of these will be for 3 credit hours. In addition, students will select three other seminars from a menu of five courses. Each course is designed to touch on one or more aspects of the national strategy's dimensions of homeland security—prevention, protection, response and recovery.

A brief description of each course and the possible instructor appears below. (Draft syllabi for each course as well as the profile of the intended instructor are attached as appendices).

[*Suggested new course numbers]

**BUSH 656* Homeland Security and America's New Long War** (3 credit hours) This course provides a survey of the theory, practice, challenges and prospects for addressing the threat of attack from terrorists aimed at a post industrial country such as the United States. The course addresses what constitutes homeland security, the categories of catastrophic threats and their implications for various levels of jurisdiction, and strategies for coping with these challenges. (Note: This course has already been taught at the Bush School as a 689 and a request to establish it as a permanent course has been approved by the Graduate Council previously.)

**BUSH 657* Terrorism in Today's World** (3 credit hours) This course is divided into three segments. One component explores the recent history of terrorism with a primary focus on the Middle East and its evolution. A second phase examines the existing government counter-terrorism efforts. A final section is devoted to an assessment of possible modifications in U.S. government agencies’ practices to more effectively address the continuing evolution of the terrorist challenge. (Note: This course has already been taught at the Bush School as a 689 and a request to establish it as a permanent course has been approved by the Graduate Council previously.)

**BUSH 648* Prevent, Protect, Respond and Recover from WMD Terrorism** (3 credit hours) An examination is made of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) including nuclear, biological, chemical and radiological weapons, their effects and methods used to prevent and protect against their use by non-state actors. Attention is also given to issues involved in responses and recovery from a WMD terrorism event.

**BUSH 649* Protection of the Nation's Critical infrastructure** (3 credit hours) This course examines the 11 major categories of the nation's critical infrastructure including their scope, ownership (operational responsibility), vulnerabilities, current status, and focus issues. Strategies for critical infrastructure protection will be considered as well as means for determining priorities for establishing protection of various components.

**BUSH 658* Homeland Security and U.S. Business** (3 credit hours) This course considers the functional areas in which business firms are affected by terrorism and will examine specific industries and geographical vulnerabilities. Consideration will also be given to means of
responding to these risks and the business opportunities that have been created by terrorism and homeland security initiatives.

**BUSH 659* Government and Homeland Security** (3 credit hours) This course will focus on the implications of the U.S. federalist government system (i.e., multiple government levels with shared or overlapping formal authority) in structure and operation as it seeks to combat terrorism and the challenges it faces from jurisdictional, political, fiscal and administrative perspectives.

**BUSH 685 Directed Studies** (1-4 credit hours) Directed individual instruction in selected problems related to research topics in the area of this certificate. (Note: this course already exists in the Bush School and is being extended for use in this distance education certificate program. Although Bush 685 has been approved for variable credit hours, normally in this program students will enroll for 3 credit hours)

*Summary of Request.* Approval is sought for the establishment of the Certificate in Homeland Security requiring 15 hours of graduate instruction and approval for the core courses to be incorporated in this certificate that have not previously been established by the University. Specifically, the additional courses are:

- Bush 648 Prevent, Protect, Respond & Recover from WMD Terrorism
- Bush 649 Protection of the Nation's Critical Infrastructure
- Bush 658 Homeland Security and Business
- Bush 659 Government and Homeland Security

Syllabi for all courses in the proposed certificate program and the responses received from Departments/Colleges who have already reviewed individual course syllabi appear in the attached appendices. Also in the appendix for each proposed course is a brief biography of the anticipated instructor. If this package is approved, those instructors not currently members of the Texas A&M University Graduate Faculty will be presented for review.