November 13, 2008

MEMORANDUM

TO: Graduate Council, Texas A&M University
    Robert C. Webb, Interim Dean of Graduate Studies

FROM: Samuel A. Kirkpatrick, Executive Associate Dean for Academic Affairs & Management

RE: Proposed Bush School Graduate Certificate in National Security Affairs

Attached is a proposal from the Bush School of Government and Public Service for a graduate certificate in National Security Affairs which will be officially transcribed and drawn from a variety of existing courses in the Bush School curriculum for our Master’s Degree in International Affairs (MPIA). This will be the Bush School’s fourth formal graduate certificate linked to our degree programs. The certificate is an integral part of our new National Security Leadership Program developed and funded initially in collaboration with Lawrence Livermore National Security, LLC and the University’s Institute for National Security Education and Research.

The certificate delivery is face-to-face in executive format on campus complemented by teleconferencing and online activities primarily for a student audience of more experienced, executive or advanced-level managers and leaders, initially from Lawrence Livermore National Labs and from among qualified Texas A&M graduate students. The certificate is structured in such a way as to enable expansion to student clientele at other agencies, firms or organizations which might contract with Texas A&M University and for graduate students who meet standard graduate school entrance and special experiential requirements.

Your consideration of this proposal will be greatly appreciated as part of the University’s educational and research endeavor to improve national security knowledge and capacity. It has the full support of the Bush School and its Graduate Instruction Committee. Please let me know if we can respond to questions.

xc: Dick Chilcoat, Dean
    Charles Hermann, Director, MPIA
    Marvin Adams, Director, INSER
    David R. Boyle, Associate Director, NSSP

Enclosures
Texas A&M University  
Department Request for a New Certificate Program  
Graduate **** Professional  

1. This certificate request is submitted by the Department of Bush School of Government and Public Service. 


3. Paragraph for catalog: The Certificate in National Security Affairs provides a comprehensive overview of the formation and operation of U.S. national security policy especially for individuals currently in professional careers in organizations dealing with such security matters. 

4. Is the certificate in a disciplinary area where Texas A&M University already offers degrees? Yes X  
No ___ If no, TAMU may not have the authority from the state to offer such a certificate. Please consult with the Provost's Office. 

5. How many hours are in the certificate? __12___ If 15 or less, approval beyond the President is generally not needed. If the certificate is 16-29 hours and in a discipline where the University already offers a degree, notification of the Coordinating Board and Board of Regents is required. If the certificate is over 15 hours and in an area where Texas A&M University doesn't already offer degrees, state approval may be needed. 

6. Is the certificate potentially going to be offered as a stand-alone certificate program to students at other locations than the Texas A&M University Campus? Yes ___ No X ___  
Answer yes, if the program is offered in Texas, out of state, or out of country. If yes, then after the President approves the certificate, the Provost's Office needs to notify the Board of Regents, the Coordinating Board, and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. If SACS is not notified, the students taking the certificate as a stand-alone program may not qualify for Federal financial aid. TAMU is also required to notify SACS of any specific location to which a certificate program is offered to multiple students. If you are offering a certificate program to a location Texas, the state also requires us to notify potentially affect institutions, which have competing programs, ahead of time. 

7. Is the certificate program going to be available through Distance Education? 
Yes ___ No X ___ If yes, then again, SACS will need to be notified. 

Approval recommended by:  
Head of Department Signature Date 
Head of Department (if cross-listed course) Signature Date 
Submitted to Coordinating Board by:  
Signature Date 
Chair, College Review Committee Signature Date 
Dean of College Signature Date 
Dean, Office of Graduate Studies Signature Date 
Date Effective Date
A Proposal for

A GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS

George Bush School of Government and Public Service

Texas A&M University

Description: The Bush School of Government and Public Service proposes the establishment of a 12 credit hour graduate certificate in National Security Affairs intended to provide a comprehensive overview of the formation and operation of United States national security policy. It is designed specifically for individuals established in professional careers that involve engagement with issues and/or personnel concerning the formation or operation of national security. The primary audience for this certificate will be persons currently employed in organizations relevant to U.S. national security matters—particularly those in technical or scientific endeavors—and who may be expected to assume increased management and leadership responsibilities.

The certificate offers a framework for comprehension of the key national security organizations and processes, and fundamental issues and policies involved. Students in the certificate program will enroll in a mix of required courses and electives selected from a structured menu. They will be expected to be in residence at the Bush School for at least half of the required 12 credit hours for the certificate (e.g., by taking two 3-hour credit courses during one of the five week summer terms). Remaining courses to complete the requirement will be available online during the University’s fall and spring semesters. In addition to the formal credit hour courses, certificate participants will be expected to participate (either in person or from remote sites) in a series of lecture presentations or seminars involving special guests. Participation in a minimum of six such sessions is required.

Eligibility: Individuals may apply who hold a terminal or graduate degree from an accredited university and three years employment (or a bachelor’s degree and five years employment) in a firm, laboratory, agency or nongovernmental organization in which the individual’s responsibilities involve the development or provision of systems, services or products for use in national or international security. Applicants must meet the requirements for admission for graduate study at Texas A&M University as non-degree seeking students (G-6). Proficiency in reading, writing and comprehending spoken English at a level necessary for graduate instruction is required.
Program Administration:

The Bush School of Government and Public Service has considerable experience in directing, staffing and delivering graduate certificate programs through a variety of methods and support systems. Academic administrative responsibilities are directly linked to the relevant master’s degree program from which a specific set of certificate courses is derived. Key staff support is provided by the School’s Office of Extended Education and the relevant degree program.

The Certificate in National Security Affairs will be administered by the Director of the International Affairs Program at the Bush School. The Program Director will confer regularly about the operation of the certificate with an advisory committee consisting of two Bush School faculty members teaching courses in the certificate program (appointed by the Dean of the Bush School), a representative of the Nuclear Security Science and Policy Institute (appointed by the Director of that institute), a representative of the Scowcroft Institute of International Affairs (appointed by the Director of that institute) and a representative of any academic department that subsequently enters into an agreement with the Bush School to offer a course in the certificate (to be appointed by the head of that academic unit). The Advisory Committee will confirm admission of persons applying to the certificate; recommend and oversee courses offered in the certificate program; and help resolve other issues presented by the Program Director.

Instruction: All courses in the certificate program, which will accrue graduate credit hours at Texas A&M University, will be offered by the Bush School of Government and Public Service and, as appropriate, other cooperating departments that enter into agreement with the Bush School as partners in the certificate program. Instructors are faculty at Texas A&M University. Students select from among the following courses available in the certificate as approved by an appropriate adviser:

- INTA 651 National Security Policy
- INTA 602 Homeland Security and Homeland Defense
- INTA 689a U.S. Military Policy
- INTA 650 National Security Law
- INTA 652 The Role of Intelligence in Security Affairs
- INTA 657 Terrorism in Today’s World
- INTA 689b International Security
- INTA 689c Deterrence
- INTA 659 Transnational Security Issues
Application: There are two methods of applying for admission to the certificate program: individual or corporate. Individuals may apply online at the Bush School website at http://bush.tamu.edu. Alternatively, by agreement with the Bush School and Texas A&M University, a firm or government agency may enter into a contract for a specified number of their employees to be enrolled annually as students in the certificate program. All employees proposed by a firm having a contract for the program must fulfill the requirements for admission for graduate study at the Bush School, Texas A&M University. Inquiries about admission should be directed to the International Program Director at the Bush School.

Illustrative Schedule:

First Term, Summer Semester—late May until first week of July: Certificate Introduction and two courses in residence at Texas A&M University.

Fall Semester: One online course—late August until early December: (residency for approximately 3 days during the semester will be encouraged; participation in 3 teleconferenced guest lecture seminars is required)

Spring Semester: One online course—mid-January until early May (residency for approximately 3 days will be encouraged; participation in 3 teleconferenced guest lecture seminars is required)

Mid-May: Certificate awarded upon completion of 12 credit hours and participation in the required number of interactive video teleconferenced lectures