INFORMATION ITEM #3
Degree Extensions Approved by the President Under Delegated Authority (Daniel J. Bernardo)

Extension of Bachelor of Arts in History to Global Campus
The purpose of launching the online History major is to better serve “degree completers” (individuals who have completed some college courses at WSU or elsewhere, and now wish to return to school) as well as nontraditional students from diverse backgrounds. In addition, because implementing the History major will involve increasing the variety of History courses offered, the major will be useful not only for those students interested in majoring in History, but also for students in other majors seeking electives and UCORE courses.

The study of history requires students to develop critical and creative thinking skills, an ability to analyze and interpret data, and writing and communication skills. The degree offers opportunities to enrich content delivery by engaging students in examination and interpretation of the vast array of online resources and digital archives that will improve their skills as historians.

These skills can serve as a foundation for success in a variety of careers. An undergraduate degree in history can lead to jobs in communications, business, journalism and publishing, and government service. With further study, students can pursue careers as teachers, public historians, museum curators, cultural resource managers, and archivists. Similarly, students can train for careers in business, medicine, law, or politics. Some of our history majors have found work in the Interior and State Departments, Smithsonian Institution, Agriculture Department, Central Intelligence Agency, and the National Security Agency.

The History Department already offers History courses that serve the Bachelor of Arts in Social Sciences degree, and provide UCORE and elective courses to other majors. Therefore, the shift to an online major can be achieved with modest investment.

The Faculty of the Department of History and the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences agree that the degree can be supported for online delivery, and they are prepared to engage in the development and delivery of the online degree.

Extension of Bachelor of Arts in Sociology to Global Campus
The purpose of the online sociology major is to better serve “degree completers” (individuals who have completed some college courses at WSU or elsewhere, and now wish to return to school) as well as nontraditional students from diverse backgrounds. In addition, because implementing the sociology major will involve increasing the variety of sociology courses offered, the major will be useful not only for those students interested in majoring in sociology, but also for students in other majors seeking electives and UCORE courses.

Because the sociology major can be completed in under two years (provided transfer of two years of coursework) it is an ideal major for degree completers, including those who are already employed and need a college degree to improve their career trajectory.
Further, because sociology courses examine the foundations and consequences of social inequality, the major is often of interest to students from diverse backgrounds. Our experience is that our minority students are strongly committed to improving the welfare of people in their communities. Sociology gives graduates tools with which to do so. Improving our efforts to serve a broad range of students is consistent with WSU’s Land Grant Mission, extending the sociology degree to benefit the citizens of the state and beyond. Delivering the degree online and asynchronously, provides access to qualified place-bound and/or time-constrained individuals state-wide, nationally and internationally. This effort is also consistent with WSU’s Drive-to-25 efforts to increase the percentage of underrepresented students, and can contribute to timely graduation rates. Finally, the major (and the associated increased number of sociology elective offerings) will prepare students for working effectively in a diverse country and global society (WSU Strategic Plan). Indeed, 83% of workers who majored in sociology say that they use what they learned about diversity to help them in their job (American Sociological Association 2015 employment report).

The Global Campus is prepared to fully support course development, student services, advising, recruiting, marketing, and faculty development within their existing infrastructure.

Likewise, the Sociology Department is prepared to manage assessment, instruction, innovation, and coordination of the online degree in concert with their existing campus-based degree. The sociology department is already offering a number of online courses during the academic year. The creation of an online major will therefore require only the addition of approximately three courses/semester (phased in with growth in enrollment) as well as preparation of new courses to increase the diversity of course offerings.

This recommendation was passed by the Faculty Senate on March 8, 2018.

**Extension of Masters of Arts in Music to Global Campus**

The Master of Arts in Music degree offered by the School of Music Program is flexible and provides students the opportunity to develop a unique program of study to satisfy individual interests and goals. Students complete a core curriculum with the remainder of their program consisting largely of supervised independent studies related to their master’s projects. All this can be done via online delivery.

Online delivery will be attractive to music educators who wish to earn MA’s but are unwilling to quit their teaching jobs and leave their families to move to Pullman to do so.

The MA in Music will be delivered in three possible ways, 1) entirely online, 2) with a combination of online and face-to-face classes, or 3) entirely through studies on the Pullman campus.

Extending the MA in Music by making it available via online delivery will attract more graduate students, from throughout the region and from across the country, to study in the School of Music.

We are not proposing any new collaborative relationships with other educational partners.

The School of Music has been planning this expansion to the degree program for a number of years. Because the addition of the online degree would not place a significant extra burden on
faculty or staff, the format appeals to the faculty, school, and the college as a way to generate new enrollments and increase access to the WSU School of Music.

The Faculty of the School of Music and the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences agree that the degree can be supported for online delivery, and they are prepared to engage fully in the development and delivery of the online degree.

This recommendation was passed by the Faculty Senate on April 12, 2018.