Commission on Peer Review and Accreditation of the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration Annual Accreditation Report

Instructions:
Please fill in the following narrative and quantitative fields with information related to conformance with Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration Accreditation Standards. If the program wishes to provide additional context to its data, supplementary documents may be uploaded at the bottom of the form.

Programs should fill out a separate report for each accredited degree. Programs with multiple campuses or modalities should upload a supplemental table that disaggregates all faculty and student data by campus or modality. Multiple modalities refers to differing modes of pedagogy within the same program, be they geographic, technological, curricular, or temporal. Typical structures that fall in this category are distance campuses, online education, and unique student cohorts within the program, such as executive or 3+2 cohorts.

This annual report form is designed to accommodate programs accredited under both the pre-2009 and the current accreditation standards (approved in 10/2009). Some questions are designated as optional for programs accredited under the pre-2009 standards. All questions are required for programs accredited under the current accreditation standards.

The annual data report year is defined as the Academic Year prior to the report’s submission. The program will indicate in the report if its university defines its Academic Year as "Fall, Spring, Summer" or "Summer, Fall, Spring".

Advisory: Where possible, COPRA attempts to collect data in the formats used by IPEDS and the Common Data Set initiatives in order to facilitate the program’s efforts in obtaining information from institutional research departments at their campuses. COPRA recommends liaising with the appropriate offices at your university when reporting accreditation data.

1. The mission of your program will automatically populate below from your last report. If it does not, please provide it below. Please note that the mission provided below will be used to populate your program’s profile on the NASPAA website. If there have been any changes to your program’s mission since your last review or annual report, please click here to enter the revised mission statement. Please describe the changes and the mission revision process (Question 3) regarding substantive change.

The mission of the Master of Public Administration program is to strengthen the public service in a democratic and diverse society by educating students to manage and lead public and nonprofit institutions effectively, ethically, and democratically.

2a. Please indicate the additional delivery modalities of your program (Check all that apply): b. In person instruction with online coursework available
d. Completely online (students never have to come to campus)

2c. Does the program include an executive cohort or track? No

3. Has your program made any substantive changes since the most recent review or
annual report? If so, please elaborate.

In the process of working through our Program assessment plan, we (the MPA Program Committee members) modified the Capstone presentation process. Now, Capstone students present to a panel on UNO MPA alums. These alums are volunteers, are subject to an hour-long training program, are given a 16-question evaluation form to complete for each student and are asked to engage the students in a question and answer session not to exceed 10 minutes following each presentation.

The students are made aware - and it is bold red letters on the syllabus - that these evaluations are have no bearing on the students' final grade, that the evaluations are exclusively for the purpose of program evaluation.

In conversations with students, I have heard nothing but positive comments. They like the new format because they have a more captivate audience. Alums are enjoining the experience because they see it as a meaningful way of giving back to the Program. The Program benefits on a number of levels, including data collection for program assessment.

4. Program Evaluation: Please discuss how the program has collected, applied, and reported information about its performance and its operations to guide the evolution of the program's mission and the program's design and continuous improvement in the past year. If you wish to upload any supplements, you may do so at the bottom of the form.

We have refined definitions for the five universal competency areas, based on our mission. This was done through input from the MPA Advisory Board, an analysis of student exit surveys, a faculty retreat, and subgroups of faculty members. We conducted focus groups with employers to obtain their perspective. We have identified and implemented assessment measures in key areas. For example, new students conduct self assessments of their proficiency in our competencies and we conduct these surveys again when students complete the program, for comparison purposes. We also have a new rubric for our capstone projects that is used as an assessment tool; the capstone projects are designed to integrate much of what the student has learned throughout the program, thus providing us the opportunity to assess their level of achievement in many of the universal competencies.

As stated above, we completed an extensive process of reviewing our core curriculum and made substantive changes to best reflect linkages to the universal competencies. We are in the process of conducting a complete assessment of the universal competencies.

Information about performance and operations is regularly reported to program faculty at monthly meetings. In addition, faculty attend and help to facilitate and grade presentations of capstone projects each semester, so are well aware of the quality of the ultimate products produced by our students at the end of the program. Student input is formally received through the inclusion of an elected student representative on the MPA Committee, which also meets monthly. Information about performance and operations is regularly discussed at the annual Advisory Board meetings and monthly faculty meetings and program adjustments are made as needed.

The School and Program's website has been overhauled to provide current and prospective students with easily accessible performance information, including this report:
5. Number of Faculty Nucleus 15

Nucleus faculty information should be entered using the “Add/View a Faculty Member” tab at the top of the page. You only have to enter information for at least 5 nucleus faculty members. If you have previously entered faculty information in a Self-Study Report or Annual Report within this system, the information will be auto-populated in the tab. Every year you must check to verify the accuracy of the information and edit as necessary.

6. Please provide the percentage of courses in each category that are taught by full and part-time faculty in the annual report year. Programs with multiple campuses or modalities should upload a supplemental table that breaks this information down by campus or modality.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% All courses</th>
<th>87</th>
<th>13</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>% Courses delivering required competencies</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. Indicate how the program defines its Academic Year Calendar

Fall, Spring, Summer

9. Admissions:
Please fill out this table describing your program’s applicant pool for the annual report year. Combine applicants across the year into one pool. The number of enrolled students should only include those students who were admitted and enrolled within the annual report year. This number should not reflect total student enrollment. Programs with multiple campuses or modalities should upload a supplemental table that breaks this information down by campus or modality.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applicants</th>
<th>86</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Admitted Students</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrolled Students</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(This question is optional for programs using the pre-2009 standards.)

10. Below, using the ARY-5 cohort, indicate the cohort’s initial enrollment numbers, how many of those enrolled graduated within the program design length, and within 150% and 200% of program design length. Note that the numbers in each successive column are cumulative, meaning that the number of students in the column for 200% of degree length should include the numbers of students from the 150% column, plus those that graduated within 150-200% of program length. For example, if 15 students initially enrolled, 10 graduated in 100%, 2 graduated in 150% and 1 graduated in 200% you would enter: 15; 10; 12; 13. NOT 15; 10; 2; 1. Programs with multiple campuses or modalities should upload a supplemental table that breaks this information down by campus or modality.
11. Please define your program design length: Semesters

8

12. Report the job placement statistics (number) for the year PRIOR TO the annual program survey year, of students who were employed in the “profession” within six months of graduation, by employment sector, using the table below. Programs with multiple campuses or modalities should upload a supplemental table that breaks this information down by campus or modality.

| National or central government in the same country as the program | 2 |
| State, provincial or regional government in the same country as the program | 6 |
| City, County, or other local government in the same country as the program | 8 |
| Nonprofit domestic-oriented | 17 |
| Nonprofit/NGOs internationally-oriented | 1 |
| Private Sector but not research/consulting | 2 |
| Obtaining further education | 2 |
| Unemployed (seeking employment) | 1 |
| Status Unknown | 2 |
| Total | 41 |

13. CHEA requires NASPAA to ensure that programmatic outcomes are provided on all public communication materials. Please copy and paste an URL link to where your program website presents employment statistics (or other programmatic outcomes) to show student success.


16. If your program is being monitored on a specific Standard, you are required to provide updated information on the issue raised by COPRA in your decision letter each year until which you are notified that COPRA has removed the monitoring. Please refer to your most recent decision letter, available in the Documents tab, to review COPRA’s request for ongoing information. Your program is being monitored on the following standards:

Standard 1.1 No
| Standard 1.2  | No  |
| Standard 1.3  | No  |
| Standard 2.1  | No  |
| Standard 2.2  | No  |
| Standard 3.1  | No  |
| Standard 3.2  | No  |
| Standard 3.3  | No  |
| Standard 4.1  | No  |
| Standard 4.2  | No  |
| Standard 4.3  | No  |
| Standard 4.4  | No  |
| Standard 5.1  | No  |
| Standard 5.2  | No  |
| Standard 5.3  | No  |
| Standard 5.4  | No  |
| Standard 6.1  | No  |
| Standard 7.1  | No  |

**Monitored under old Standards** No

*End Accreditation Maintenance Report*

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If your school has more than one degree that falls under your NASPAA membership, you should aggregate the data for each degree into one response for these questions. You will only need to complete this section for your first degree program.

18. Last fall semester/quarter, what was the number of each of the following? (use headcount, not FTE. If you have only FTE data, please indicate this in the Comments & Caveats section below.)

Total Instructional Faculty for your NASPAA degree program(s) 21
Total sections offered by your NASPAA degree program(s) 27

Percentage of those sections taught by full-time faculty 86

For the following questions relating to tuition/fees, the program should provide data for a student enrolled on a FULL TIME basis. Please include all mandatory fees as well as tuition in your calculations. Do not include adjustments for financial aid offered to students. If appropriate, report the following separately (Private Institutions should report their tuition under Level 1):

- Level 1: The highest level of tuition (Typically for Out of State students)
- Level 2: For those programs with a second, lower tuition rate (Typically for In State students)

19. What is the total, non-discounted cost (tuition/fees) for a Full Time Student who enrolled in fall of the survey year to complete the degree program?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuition</th>
<th>27,866</th>
<th>9,294</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fees</td>
<td>2,044</td>
<td>2,045</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Cost</td>
<td>29,910</td>
<td>12,019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For this survey, financial aid consists of tuition scholarships, assistantships, fellowships, or work-study support from your institution. This includes direct funding from your program or from other sources within the institution. Do not include loans or other assistance that must be repaid.

Indicate the percentage of students enrolled in the program who received financial aid. Enter separate percentages for Full-time, Part-Time, and International Students. Enter a whole number between 0 and 100 for 0% to 100%.

20. % of Full-Time Students receiving Financial Aid 7

21. % of Part-Time Students receiving Financial Aid 5

22. % of International Students (Full and Part-Time) receiving Financial Aid 0
23. Name of the School/Department where the program resides
   School of Public Administration

24. Indicate who the program is primarily designed to serve (select only one):
   d. Generally part-time with some full-time

25. Are evening or weekend classes available
   We have evening classes but not weekend ones

26. Approximately how many semesters/terms would it take a full-time student to complete the program?
   5 Semesters

27. In the area below, describe what is distinctive about this degree program that you would like prospective students to know. You may not refer to your programs US News and World Report rankings in this text box. (Limit 60 words)
   UNO's MPA Program has a great combination of a high ranking, extremely competitive tuition rates, and the flexibility of both online and traditional formats. Students who want an excellent education at a reasonable price apply to UNO's MPA Program. Our faculty are respected scholars in the field of public administration and bring excellent teaching to the classroom. With nine concentrations, students may select the area that interests them the most for a career in public service. We are practical, professional, and prestigious.

   City/Local
   Criminal Justice
   Emergency
   General/Public Management
   Health
   Information Technology
   Nonprofit
   Public Policy Analysis
   Other (Please specify)

28. Please select the concentrations/specializations your program offers (Check all that apply):

29. If your program has a branch or satellite campus located in another state or country, please check off which location(s) your program is available.
   No

30. Admission Requirements (check all that apply):
   Bachelors Degree Required
   Letter of Recommendation Required
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Resume</td>
<td>Required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standardized Tests</td>
<td>Required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRE</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Score</td>
<td>280.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Score</td>
<td>295.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRE Qualitative</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRE Quantitative</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GMAT</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LSAT</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOEFL</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Standardized Test</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GPA</td>
<td>Required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Required GPA</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statement of Intent</td>
<td>Required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay/Additional Writing Sample</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Experience</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interview</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Mission Based Criteria</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

31. Please provide a short (300 characters) description of your programs admissions policy. (In this area you may talk about waivers, typical admits, and mission based admissions factors).

The admissions policy is broad so that diverse students have the opportunity to apply and be admitted. We use a portfolio approach in reviewing the applications, considering all of the materials as a whole. The general prerequisite for admission is a Bachelor’s degree from an accredited institution. In addition to the degree, the GRE, applicant’s GPA, applicant’s resume, an essay (to consider the applicant’s goals in the context of the program’s mission), and letters of recommendation are reviewed and considered for admission.

All applications are reviewed by the MPA Admissions Committee, a subcommittee of three faculty members drawn from the MPA Program Committee.

Beginning in Spring 2015, a GRE waiver was implemented. The policy is:

Applicants to the UNO School of Public Administration MPA program may be granted a
waiver from the GRE requirement, under one or more of the following circumstances:

The applicant has previously received a graduate or terminal degree from a regionally-accredited U.S. institution of higher education. These degrees may include, for example, an M.S., M.A., MPH, MSW, M.D., Ph.D., or J.D.
The applicant has GMAT or LSAT scores less than five years old.
The applicant is enrolled in the UNO School of Public Administration Certificate of Public Management program and has completed at least two courses in the program with a minimum Grade Point Average of 3.2 and no less than a B in any course.
The applicant is enrolled in the UNO Grace Abbott School of Social Work MSW program and has completed at least four courses with a minimum Grade Point Average of 3.2 and no less than a B in any course.
The applicant is enrolled in the UNO College of Information Science and Technology MS in MIS program and has completed at least four courses with a minimum Grade Point Average of 3.2 and no less than a B in any course.


This following questions on enrollment data refer to the current Fall. For example, if you are filling out the 2015-2016 Annual Data Report you are reporting enrollment numbers for Fall 2016.

32. What is the total number of new students entering the program in the fall? 65

33. What is the total number of students currently enrolled in the program? 232

34. Of the total number of students currently enrolled, what is the percentage of

   a. Out-of-state students: 25%
   b. International students: 1%
   c. Female students: 55%
   d. Part-time students: 90%
   e. Persons of diversity: 7%

35. How many degrees were awarded by this degree program during data report year? 47
If your school has more than one degree that falls under your NASPAA membership, you should aggregate the data for each degree into one response for these questions. You will only need to complete this section for your first degree program.

36. What is the median salary for the following (if you have 3 or fewer total faculty use d. to enter median salary):

a. Professor: 93,908
b. Associate Professor: 72,852
c. Assistant Professor: 62,925

37. Please enter the staff FTE (Full-Time Equivalent) devoted to those functions (even if some staff perform multiple functions). Use 0 [zero] for functions without designated staff.

a. Recruiting: 0.30
b. Admissions: 0.30
c. Student Advising: 0.50
d. Career Services: 0.20
e. Alumni: 0.20
f. Distance Learning Administrative Support: 0.30

38. Health Insurance Fees: Do the mandatory fees included in the calculations of cost in non-discounted cost (tuition/fees) of the degree program, include health insurance? No

39. Were students accepted into the program offered Graduate/Teaching Assistantships this academic year? No

41. Do you offer any tuition waivers or scholarships not tied to Graduate/Teaching Assistantships? No

The following section should be completed for each of your NASPAA membership degrees.

44. Your institution is: A NASPAA Member
45. Indicate the location of the degree program within the University:
   a. In a Stand Alone School

46. Is a Dual-degree option available to students?
   Yes

Please select all that apply:

47. What is the institution's academic calendar?
   Semester

48. Indicate the credit hour allocations for the following (use hours not percentages):
   a. Required Courses: 24
   c. Required Internship: 0
   b. Elective Courses: 6
   d. Other: 9

49. What is the primary language(s) of instruction used for this degree program?
   English Only

If other, explain

Students take 9 hours based on their concentration.

50. Do you accept new students year round or just in the Fall each academic year?
   b. We admit new students both in the Fall and Spring semesters.

51. Of the total completed applications received in the academic year for this program, how many were accepted/admitted?
   82

52. Of the total admitted, what is the percent for:
   a. Out-of-state residents: 27%
   b. International students: 13%
   c. Female: 46%
   d. Persons of Diversity: 6%

53. Of this number (total degrees awarded from Short form), how many were joint degrees?
   0

54. What is the data source for your alumni data? (Check all that apply)
   University Alumni Office
   Other (Please specify)

Other data source:
NASPAA survey

55. If most of your alumni data were collected from surveys, what was your survey sample collection criteria?  At graduation