Ancell School of Business
Proposed Accounting Concentration for MBA Program

May 7, 2014
Summary

• The Accounting Department of the Ancell School of Business is requesting to add a concentration in Accounting to the existing MBA program.

• The concentration will require students to take an additional three accounting electives above the current 3 credits in Accounting required as part of the MBA core.

• The concentration will not increase the graduation requirements for the qualified MBA student as the courses would be in lieu of other electives.
Rationale

• WCSU currently has 108 senior accounting majors, and we have graduated 175 students over the last three years, many of these students go onto pursue the Certified Public Accountant (CPA) license.

• To become a licensed CPA in the state of Connecticut, candidates must pass the exam, met experience requirements and have earned 150 credit hours. Our B.A. in Accounting is 122 credit hours.

• WCSU graduates in accounting use different paths to reach 150 credit hours including double majors, additional undergraduate courses or graduate courses.
Rationale

• The existing MBA program at WestConn has only 3 credits in Accounting, so it is less attractive for Accounting majors.

• Adding a Concentration in Accounting will make the MBA program more attractive to our graduates, as well as attract local graduates in similar situations.

• Many existing Accounting majors have expressed their support for the concentration
Resource Requirements

• Using existing approved resources, the Accounting Dept. will be able to staff the additional classes.

• We currently offer two graduate level accounting courses per year – one is a pre-requisite course, which will be replaced by a zero credit on-line module course, and the other is part of the MBA core.

• We anticipate adding three accounting electives per year, for a total of four accounting offerings, with two offered over the summer sessions.
Cost/Benefit

• Adding the additional courses required for the concentration are expected to incrementally increase staffing requirements by 6 credits, and with summer offerings anticipated, will cost approximately $10,000 - $12,000 in incremental costs (two summer stipends)

• With many current students interested in the program and anticipate adding 10 to 20 new students to the MBA program as a result of the concentration.
New Accounting Elective Courses for MBA

• Advanced Accounting Theory
• Financial Statement Analysis
• Advanced Issues in Tax
• Advanced Valuation Issues