

**WILLIAM & MARY
RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE CLOSURE OF THE MASTER OF ARTS IN PHYSICS
DEGREE PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, William & Mary students can earn baccalaureate, master's, and doctoral degrees in Physics;

WHEREAS, William & Mary began offering a Master of Arts (M.A.) in Physics degree in 1959;

WHEREAS, the last conferral of a Master of Arts (M.A.) in Physics at William & Mary was in May 1970;

WHEREAS, no students have been enrolled in the M.A. in Physics program for more than a decade;

WHEREAS, William & Mary will continue to award the existing Master of Science (M.S.) in Physics degree;

WHEREAS, no faculty positions will be lost as a result of the discontinuance of the degree program, and

WHEREAS, the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences concurs with the need to close the M.A. in Physics degree program,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that upon recommendation of the President and the Provost, the William & Mary Board of Visitors approves the closure of the M.A. in Physics degree program.

BOARD OF VISITORS ACTION FORM
FOR PROPOSED INSTITUTIONAL CHANGES REQUIRING BOV AND SCHEV APPROVAL

PROPOSAL TITLE:

Closure of Master of Arts (M.A.) in Physics degree program

PURPOSE OF PROPOSAL:

The M.A. in Physics degree program is recommended for closure. Action by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) is required for closure. Prior to SCHEV submission, Board action is required.

APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE:

Academic Affairs

BRIEF NARRATIVE:

The M.A. in Physics degree program has graduated zero students since May 1970, when the degree was last conferred. There is not a demand for a M.A. in Physics at William & Mary. Notably, William & Mary also awards Bachelor of Science (B.S.), Master of Science (M.S.) and Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degrees in Physics. The closure of the program will not impact either of these graduate programs nor will it impact faculty positions within the Department of Physics.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

This closure is resource neutral. The university will continue to offer baccalaureate, master's (of science only) and doctoral programs in physics.