



Office of the Chair
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25 August 2000

TO: Members, University Senate

FROM: University Senate Council

RE: AGENDA ITEM: University Senate Meeting, Monday 11 September 2000
Proposal to establish a B.S. degree in Chemical Engineering and a B.S.
degree in Mechanical Engineering at its Extended Campus site in Paducah,
Kentucky

Background:

Pursuant to the written request of five senators, this proposal is placed on the Senate agenda pursuant to Senate Rule III – 3.2.H.

Attachment-1

US Agenda Item: Engineering proposals, 7244C Transmittal.doc



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4 May 2000

TO: Members, University Senate

FROM: University Senate Council

RE: Course/Program Actions: Effective Date: Fall Semester, 2000,
UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

The Senate Council circulates for your approval the following curricular actions. Objections will be accepted from University Senators and faculty members on or before August 25, 2000. All other requirements for the courses or programs as approved below must be met.

SENATE COUNCIL

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COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Proposal to establish a B.S. degree in Chemical Engineering and a B.S. degree in Mechanical Engineering at its Extended Campus site in Paducah, Kentucky

Background and Rationale

The College of Engineering is seeking Senate approval for the establishment of B.S. degree programs in Chemical Engineering and Mechanical Engineering at its Extended Campus site in Paducah, Kentucky. The creation of these programs is consistent with the resolution passed by the Kentucky Council on Higher Education (predecessor of the CPE) on November 13, 1995, directing UK, Murray State University (MuSU) and Paducah Community College (PCC) to cooperate in establishing ABET (Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology)-accredited undergraduate programs in Chemical Engineering and Mechanical Engineering in a Regional Center in the Jackson Purchase Area in western Kentucky. In 1996 the Kentucky General Assembly supported the resolution with an operating budget, which in 1999-00 stands at \$1.4 M.

In Spring 1998 classes commenced in Crouse Hall, a facility made possible through \$8.3 M in donations and pledges to Paducah Junior College, Inc. Crouse Hall, which has approximately 27,000 sq ft of assignable space, houses the developing engineering programs, as well as PCC academic programs in mathematics and physics. By Fall

2000, over \$1.1 M in new laboratory equipment will have been ordered, delivered, installed, and commissioned by the UK College of Engineering in Crouse Hall in support of the two engineering programs. By July 2000, all faculty and staff will be in place, with acceptances for the final four faculty lines received within the past two months.

Engineering lies within UK's approved program band; therefore, these new programs need not go through the CPE interim process for new-program review. However, because identification as distinct programs is sought for these programs (which have "sister" programs on the Lexington Campus), University approval is needed. If approved, the programs will carry program titles identical to those on the Lexington Campus but will have different CIP codes. Program details are available in a full proposal submitted to the Senate Council. The programs in Paducah, as designed, have the same content, duration, academic standards and policies, and to some extent, the same institutional control and administration (same dean and chairperson as Lexington Campus, but with a local site director), and some shared faculty (mainly via modest use of interactive television). There are, however, defensible reasons the College of Engineering is asking for different program designations for Paducah, consistent with past counsel of ABET-knowledgeable experts who have worked with College administration throughout the new-program development process. These reasons include: (1) the preservation of the prerogative for the Paducah programs to establish their own educational objectives, student learning outcomes, and assessment methods in response to their own local stakeholders, this in the spirit of engineering and regional accreditation guidelines; (2) the fact that the laboratory facilities, libraries, and academic support services, while similar to those in Lexington, are indeed different and also 400 km distant from the Lexington Campus; (3) differences in faculty (but not faculty quality) with primary responsibility in Paducah (eight UK faculty and five jointly-appointed MuSU faculty); and (4) differences in student demographics (all Engineering students in Paducah are transfer students, most from PCC, by nature of the programs' very design; in addition, a larger proportion of non-traditional students might be expected).

As a baseline for the Paducah programs, it was decided that the programs would mirror their counterpart programs in Lexington. With establishment of program distinctiveness, the Chemical Engineering and Mechanical Engineering programs in Paducah will be permitted to change over time, following established UK processes for effecting change in curriculum and content. The plan outlined herein is based on a vision of high-quality engineering education, delivered responsively, cost-effectively, collaboratively, creatively, and flexibly, to meet contemporary needs in western Kentucky. The planned B.S. degree programs in Chemical Engineering and Mechanical Engineering are consistent with the mission of the University as a comprehensive, public, land-grant university dedicated to preparing students for an increasingly diverse and technological world and to improving the lives of citizens of the Commonwealth. This is accomplished, in part, by delivering quality undergraduate engineering education to stakeholders in western Kentucky.

The Undergraduate and Senate Councils have reviewed the College of Engineering's request for approval of the chemical and mechanical engineering programs at the Paducah site as separate and distinct degree programs. At present, the Paducah programs mirror the degree requirements approved for the B.S. in Chemical Engineering and the B.S. in Mechanical Engineering on the Lexington Campus.

Any future changes to the curricula offered at the Paducah site would then need to be developed and approved by the Engineering faculty and processed through the appropriate academic Councils in accordance with the *University Senate Rules*.

Attached find a Summary Statement of the Paducah Programs. Questions may be directed to Professor G.T. Lineberry, Associate Dean for Extended Campus Programs, College of Engineering.

7422C

[See also memo from G.T. Lineberry in transmittal file. That was attached to the Senate agenda item.]