

BACKGROUND

University of Toledo

Bachelor of Applied Organizational Technology

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY/RECOMMENDATION

This program clearly meets Regents' standards for baccalaureate degree programs. There were no serious concerns raised in the review.

Request: University of Toledo seeks approval for a Bachelor of Applied Organizational Technology in collaboration with Owens Community College. The Bachelor of Applied Organizational Technology provides a baccalaureate degree completion program for the Associate of Applied Arts and Associate of Applied Business. The degree is housed within the College of Business. The College of Business is accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB).

Program Purpose/Mission: The Bachelor of Applied Organizational Technology will be offered on a pilot basis with a cohort of 25 graduates from Owens Community College with the Associate of Applied Business degree. AAB students from other community colleges will be admitted after the pilot is successfully implemented and evaluated. The program is designed to provide a means by which fully employed adults holding two-year technical degrees can complete a bachelor's degree in the equivalent of two additional years of full-time study (2 + 2 program). The University of Toledo is committing scholarship resources to this program for the first cohort of 25 students (renewable for a second year).

Curriculum: The curriculum of the proposed baccalaureate degree comprises a blend of general education and the business education minor. The degree will provide students with sufficient business coursework to qualify for positions in and promotions within public, private and not-for-profit organizations. Sixty hours from the associate degree will be counted toward baccalaureate degree requirements. Students must complete all requirements for the proposed degree, including thirty hours of upper division credit outside the College of Business (at least 15 hours required from the College of Arts and Sciences). Students have the opportunity to individualize the program to specific employment needs, while completing a focused curricular track designed to broaden or increase the depth of education in business related fields. With the business focus, the Bachelors of Applied Organizational Technology will provide students with the foundation courses for the MBA.

Faculty: University of Toledo will draw upon its existing faculty within the College of Business and the College of Arts and Sciences for the program.

Evidence of Need: The Bachelor of Applied Organizational Technology (BAOT) is responsive to jobs that require a bachelor's degree for career advancement. Because of the focused, technical nature of Associate of Applied Science and

Associate of Applied Business degrees, full transferability of credits into a baccalaureate program has been difficult. The BAOT provides a more technically focused option at the baccalaureate level that builds on the AAB/AAS degree and is individualized (through advising/counseling) to the specific workforce needs of the individual. Owens Community College and University of Toledo have surveyed local employers on the need for the degree. Local employers have been enthusiastic in support for the degree, particularly as an option for place-bound employees. The College of Business at the University of Toledo anticipates a growing demand for this program.

Resource Needs: Current needs of the program are primarily met by existing faculty and facilities. University of Toledo anticipates that additional resources will be required to provide appropriate academic advising support for the degree program.