

BACKGROUND

Shawnee State University Associate of Technical Study Degree

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY/RECOMMENDATION

This program clearly meets Regent's standards for associate degree programs. There were no serious concerns raised in this review.

Request: Shawnee State University requests approval to award an Associate of Technical Study (A.T.S) degree. The approval to award this degree supports the University's mission to prepare students for the changing needs of industry, education and society through diversified degree programs.

As the University continues to move forward in new degree development, this degree will be instrumental in helping the University facilitate the continued development of a technically-skilled, employment focused workforce needed for the revitalization of this economically depressed Appalachian region of the state. Shawnee State University is working collaboratively with regional employers, trade union representatives, adult workforce educators, career technical centers, Chamber of Commerce and others to ensure southern Ohio has workforce it needs to retain current employers and attract new employers to this area of the state.

Employers in this region as well as the adult workforce career centers identified a need for programs in the electrical and carpentry field, building and industrial maintenance industry, the construction field, and environmental safety all as potential new fields of study for the University.

Adults who are unemployed, under-employed or impacted by recent company down-sizing or closure will now have an opportunity to further their education and earn a degree in a program that is tailored made for them.

The Ohio South Consortium of the Ohio College Tech Prep supports the development of this new degree as it provides students who have a definitive career path a seamless transition from secondary to post secondary education.

On July 13, 2007, Shawnee State University Board of Trustees approved this new degree as well as the Educational Policy and Curriculum Committee of the University Faculty Senate.

Degree Description:

The Associate of Technical Study degree as defined in Rule 3333-1-04, is a degree that is awarded for the successful completion of a minimum of ninety quarter (or sixty) credit hours of an individualized-planned technical education program designed to respond to a student's need for a specialized technical education not currently available on a particular

campus either through cooperative arrangements with public, private, or proprietary postsecondary institutions, vocational centers, or other educational enterprises, or through an intra-institutional, interdisciplinary combination of courses offered by the awarding institution.

The course of study which is tailored made for the student must have an area of concentration that includes forty-five quarter (or thirty semester) credits hours in technical studies.

The area of concentration can be formed either by:

- Type A: a coherent combination of technical courses selectively drawn from two or more technical programs currently offered by the awarding institution to serve a career objective which would not be adequately addressed by one of those existing programs; or
- Type B: courses completed or training received by a student at other institutions of higher education, vocational centers, or other educational enterprises judged by the institution to be of college level and for which the institution awards degree credit, to a maximum of forty-five quarter (or thirty semester) credit hours, prior to the declaration of candidacy for the degree.

The degree awarded will contain the name of the student's area of concentration. Students, who earn an Associate of Technical Study degree and choose to further their education at the baccalaureate level, may need to complete a substantial amount of lower division coursework at the transfer institution

Enrollment: Enrollment projected for the first year is five full time students and is expected to grow as students become more knowledgeable of the degree's requirements.

Potential students will be informed of this new degree through the University's web site, marketing and PR materials, letters to employers, area career technical and adult workforce centers, on-going University student recruitment activities and community events.

Curriculum: The University plans to use existing courses already developed as well as existing faculty.

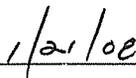
Students will receive the guidance, counseling and course information needed to meet the requirements of this degree. The Department of Industrial and Engineering Technologies has been assigned administrative oversight for the program and will provide on-going assistance as needed to ensure students interested in earning an Associate of Technical Study degree will achieve academic success.

Faculty/Resource Needs: Current faculty will be used and the University is financially prepared to offer this program. The University has classroom space, a variety of technical labs and the library resources needed for students enrolled in an A.T.S. degree program.

Program Duplication: Southern State Community College and the University of Rio Grande/Rio Grande Community College also offer an Associate of Technical Study degree. Due to the nature of the Appalachian topography, the two institutions are not easily accessible to the residents in Scioto, Pike and Adams County.

Employment Opportunities: Students earning an Associate of Technical Study degree will find employment opportunities with regional employers, large and small construction companies, utility companies, large and small businesses, health care providers, for profit and not-for profit organizations, public and private agencies and others.

End of Comment Period: December 21, 2007
No Comments Received, Recommend Approval

Approved:		
Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor		Date