BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

Baker College
Associate of Business

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY/RECOMMENDATION

Baker College meets minimum Ohio Board of Regents' standards for associate degree programs. There were concerns raised in the review resulting in a recommendation for authorization through December 2011, with annual progress reports due December 31, 2008, 2009, and 2010. A follow-up review will be performed by December 31, 2011 to determine continued authorization.

Profile and Mission: Baker College is a non-profit, independent, co-educational institution, founded in 1965 as a result of a merger between Muskegon College and Baker Business University. Now known as the Baker College System, it is the largest independent college in Michigan, with over 31,000 students in more than 80 programs on 12 campuses and four branch locations.

The mission of Baker College is "to provide quality higher education and training which enable graduates to be successful throughout challenging and rewarding careers."

Accreditation/Authorization: Baker College is regionally accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and possesses specialized accreditation for a number of its business and allied health programs. The Ohio Board of Regents initially approved the college to deliver the Associate of Applied Science in Industrial Technology, Bachelor of Business Leadership, and Bachelor of Industrial Technology degree programs in Brook Park, Ohio in November 2005. The college's current authorization expires December 31, 2011.

Program Information: The Associate of Business degree program has been offered (in Michigan) by Baker College since 1974. The purpose of the degree is to "develop graduates who are employable in the business world...and designed to prepare graduates in the rudiments of practical business application." The 97 quarter hour program contains a general education and non-technical core, and program core composed of courses in accounting, business law, economics, management, and marketing.

Review Results: Upon review of the program materials, the consultant reviewer and Regents' staff found concerns with the proposed faculty staffing model. The college responded appropriately to the suggestions and recommendations of the report by

agreeing to submit updated staffing models once open positions are filled and in advance of the teaching assignment.

Recommendation to the Chancellor: Baker College meets minimum Ohio Board of Regents' standards for associate degree programs. There were concerns raised in the review resulting in a recommendation for authorization through December 2011, with annual progress reports due December 31, 2008, 2009, and 2010. A follow-up review will be performed by December 31, 2011 to determine continued authorization.

End of Comment Period: June 12, 2008
No Comments Received, Recommend Approval

Approved:

6/30/08

Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor **Date**