

BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

Hocking Technical College

Recommendation

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

Request: Hocking Technical College proposes an Associate of Applied Science degree in Natural and Historical Interpretation in response to growing need for trained interpreters. Ohio's tourism industry is attracting more people to state and metro parks, living history sites, nature centers, museums, zoos, and outdoor living festivals, where visitors are educated about their ancestry, culture, and environment.

Purpose/Mission: Hocking Technical College is an "innovative, experience-based technical college that nurtures learning and learner success." The college "prepares learners for technical careers or transfer to other institutions of higher learning," and offers "unique and distinctive programs which serve diverse local, regional, state, national and international learners, employers and organizations."

Enrollment: The college is projecting an enrollment of thirty-five full time students by January 2011.

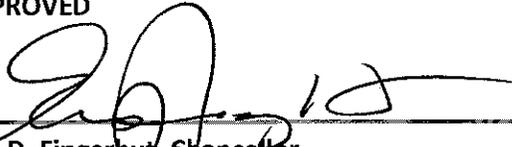
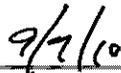
Curriculum: The curriculum includes a co-operative experience and course work in historical interpretive methods, environmental education techniques, wildlife identification, and development and design of outdoor study displays and sites. Graduates of the program will find career opportunities as an interpretive guide/ranger, historical interpreter, historical site manager, outdoor education specialist or nature center guide, with starting salaries ranging from \$30,000 to \$40,000 annually based on experience and degree completion.

Graduates will be eligible to receive the Certified Interpretive Guide certification, which will enable them to teach in national environmental education programs such as Project Learning Tree, Project WILD, and Project WET (Water Education for Teachers). Students interested in pursuing additional degrees may transfer into Ohio University's baccalaureate program in outdoor education.

Faculty/Resource Needs: The college is financially prepared to initiate the program and will use existing resources to support the program.

Program Duplication: The proposed program is not offered at any other public two-year institution in Ohio. The college is willing to collaborate and share best practices with other institutions interested in developing this or similar programs.

End of Comment Period: August 5, 2010
No Comments Received, Recommend Approval

APPROVED  Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor	 Date
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