

## BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

### KENT STATE UNIVERSITY

### Bachelor of Applied Studies, KSU Regional Campuses

#### RECOMMENDATION

**This program meets the Chancellor's minimum standards for baccalaureate degrees. Approval is recommended, contingent upon the submission of annual progress reports due by September 30, 2009, 2010 and 2011.**

**Request:** Kent State University requests approval for a Bachelor of Applied Studies to be delivered through the University's regional campus system. The proposed program provides an opportunity for place and time bound students who hold an associate degree or have completed some college coursework to complete the Bachelor of Applied Studies program. The proposed degree will be offered on all seven regional campuses and will be academically directed by the College of Education, Health and Human Services through the Counseling and Human Development Services Program in cooperation with the regional campus' leadership and the University Provost.

**Purpose/Mission:** The Bachelor of Applied Studies program is designed to reach underserved students who: (1) need a nontraditional degree with greater flexibility in delivery modes and accelerated course scheduling; (2) working adults who must have a bachelor's degree for continued employment or advancement in an existing field; and (3) working adults whose organizations need employees with a bachelor's degree that contains an element of coursework adapted to the special needs of the organization. The proposed degree is intended to maximize existing degrees and credits for each student.

**Enrollments:** Kent State University anticipates an initial enrollment of 64 students across all sites during the first year and nearly 150 students after four-years of operation. Cohort size will vary by campus with the largest enrollments anticipated at the East Liverpool, Salem, Stark and Tuscarawas campuses.

**Curriculum:** The curriculum consists of KSU liberal education requirements (36 credits, including an intensive writing course), 44 credits in the major, which includes foundation skills in communications and management/leadership studies with a focus on the social, behavioral, and cultural dimensions of work; a required computer literacy course; and two new courses: a cornerstone course designed to provide students with a background on the role of work in industrial and information societies (including the development of an individualized career plan) and, at the end of the student's program, a capstone course to assist students in developing an electronic portfolio. The Bachelor of Applied Studies is designed to build from a completed associate degree or designated KSU minor, or an individualized specialization

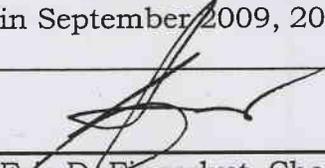
developed with advising support for a total of 34 credit hours. With general electives, the program requires 121 credit hours and is consistent with Kent State University graduation requirements.

**Resource/Faculty Needs:** Kent State University has designed the Bachelor of Applied Studies around existing and regularly offered courses and services. Only a few new courses are required, and many courses will be available by distance education in order to ensure that all regional campuses have the required curriculum available. Advising resources are available on each campus to support students. As enrollments grow, additional services and expanded oversight functions may be required. KSU anticipates that tuition and subsidy as a result of enrollment will be sufficient to support new faculty or staff needs.

Because the proposed degree program is individualized for each student, it is heavily dependent upon effective advising and existing faculty and curricular resources on each campus. Consequently, progress reports outlining the implementation of the degree program are due by September 30, 2009, 2010 and 2011. Progress reports must provide the following: student enrollment by campus, a profile of the students served by the program (e.g. demographics, employment status upon entry, credits/degrees earned upon entry,) current faculty and advising resources by campus, anticipated budget and resource needs for the next year of the program, student retention, graduation and job placement information, and an assessment of program quality and viability. The progress reports should also identify any concerns regarding the program and future planning for the program.

End of Comment Period: February 20, 2009

No Comments Received: Recommend approval with required progress reports in September 2009, 2010, and 2011.

	<i>3/26/09</i>
Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor	Date

*nil*