



REQUEST AND RECOMMENDATION

KENT STATE UNIVERSITY

Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy in Mechatronics Engineering

Request:

Kent State University requests approval to offer a Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy in Mechatronics Engineering degree.

Background:

Kent State University is a public university located in Kent, Ohio with seven additional campuses throughout northeastern Ohio, and was originally founded as a teacher-training school. Today, the university enrolls more than 40,000 undergraduate and graduate students in over 300 programs, from the associate degree level to the doctoral level. Kent State University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission until its next scheduled review in 2024-25.

Curriculum and Enrollment:

The Master of Science (M.S.) and Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Mechatronics Engineering are a 31 and 90 credit hour post bachelors programs respectively. The focus of the proposed M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Mechatronics Engineering is to provide an advanced theoretical and/or research-oriented curriculum with significant depth in mechatronics-specific disciplines, beyond the general fundamentals of an undergraduate engineering degree.

The M.S. in Mechatronics Engineering is composed of coursework in applied statistics; numerical computing; mathematical models and dynamical systems; mechatronics; systems engineering; optimal control theory; introduction to robust control; medical robotics; artificial intelligence; machine vision; robotics: kinematics and design; intelligent sensing and planning of unmanned systems; human-computer interaction; engineering optimization; and quantitative methods.

The program culminates in a research thesis.

The Ph.D. in Mechatronics Engineering is awarded after the M.S. in Mechatronics Engineering has been obtained and is composed of 30 additional credit hours of coursework in approved electives and 30 credit hours of research. The program culminates in a research dissertation.

Kent State University projects an enrollment of seven students in year one growing to 17 in the fourth year.

Faculty and Resources:

Kent State University has adequately planned for faculty and resources to deliver these programs.

Recommendation:

After review of the proposal, the Chancellor’s Council on Graduate Studies determined that the Master of Science and the Doctor of Philosophy in Mechatronics Engineering meets the Chancellor’s standards for graduate degree programs and on May 14, 2021 voted 15 “Yes,” and 0 “No” to approve. Approval may be withdrawn if, in the Chancellor’s judgement, Kent State University fails to continue to meet the Chancellor’s standards for graduate degree or receives a sanction by the Higher Learning Commission.

End of Comment Period: June 3, 2021 at 1:47 p.m.
No comments received, recommend approval

RECOMMENDATION	
The Associate Vice Chancellor has verified that this institution has met the standards and requirements of the Ohio Department of Higher Education.	
/s/ Stephanie McCann	6/7/2021
Stephanie McCann, Associate Vice Chancellor of Program Development & Approval	Date

APPROVAL	
	6/25/2021
Randy Gardner, Chancellor	Date

mlc