

REQUEST AND RECOMMENDATION**UNIVERSITY OF AKRON**

Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Systems Engineering

Request:

The University of Akron (UA) requests approval to offer the Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Systems Engineering. The Department of Mechanical Engineering in the College of Engineering will provide leadership for the program.

Background:

The University of Akron is a public institution located in Akron, Ohio, and has an enrollment of more than 24,000 undergraduate students and 4000 graduate students in programs at the associate, baccalaureate, masters and doctoral levels. The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools accredits the University of Akron until its next review in 2013.

The proposed degree program in aerospace systems engineering is responsive to an industry need for engineers prepared with foundation knowledge of engineering principles in mechanical and aerospace engineering concomitant with an understanding of systems engineering skills and knowledge and skills in business. Akron's engineering programs are ABET accredited; UA will pursue accreditation for the proposed program. Graduates will be prepared for employment as project managers in the aerospace industry, with substantial experience as a result of the required co-op experiences.

Curriculum and Enrollment:

The degree program comprises 139 credit hours. Four required co-op experiences provide students opportunities to work in industry settings. Program content provides a foundation of chemistry and physics, advanced mathematics, business systems, mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, human factors and aerospace systems engineering. The program content was developed following consultation with various industry partners including NASA-Glenn Research Center, Parker Hannifin and the Air Force Institute of Technology (AFIT) as well as members of UA's Mechanical Engineering Industrial Advisory Council. The University of Akron anticipates an enrollment of 25 students in the initial year of the program with growth to 70 students after four years.

Faculty and Resources:

The University of Akron has adequate funding support for the program and sufficient facilities to support the lab and classroom needs of the curriculum. The University of Akron has sufficient faculty to teach the foundation engineering courses, with the addition of one faculty member during the first year of the program. Additional faculty will be hired in response to program growth.

Recommendation:

This program meets the Chancellor's standards for baccalaureate degrees and approval is recommended.

End of Comment Period: July 13, 2011

No Comments Received, Recommend Approval

RECOMMENDATION

The Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs has verified that this institution has met the standards and requirements of the Ohio Board of Regents.

S Davidson

7/18/11

Stephanie Davidson, Vice Chancellor

Date

APPROVED

Jim Petro

7-27-11

Jim Petro, Chancellor

Date

MIC