

APPENDIX M

Request for Authorization to Establish a Bachelor of Science in Construction Management at The University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Introduction

The University of North Carolina at Charlotte notified General Administration of its intent to plan a Bachelor of Science degree in Construction Management (15.9999) on April 20, 2005. The university now requests approval to establish the program in August 2006.

Program Description

The proposed B.S. degree in Construction Management, which will be housed in the Department of Engineering Technology, responds to the need for highly trained personnel in the construction industry in Charlotte and the surrounding areas. The proposed B.S. in Construction Management (CM) addresses the activities and essential skills needed to pursue a construction management discipline and meets the accreditation requirements of the American Council for Construction Education (ACCE). Further, the proposed curriculum is designed to provide the construction education necessary for entry into the construction industry (residential, commercial, and industrial sectors, infrastructure) and related careers (real estate, land development, code enforcement, and insurance).

The proposed degree requires a general education core with a foundation in Mathematics and Science; a business core that includes Accounting, Economics, Management, Statistics, and Business Law; and a technical core that follows the ACCE accreditation requirements and includes Construction Materials & Methods, Construction Surveying, Construction Drawings, Cost Estimating, Structures, Soils and Foundations, Building Systems, Project Scheduling & Control, Construction Contract Documents, Construction Practices, Construction Project Administration, and Highway Design. By the time of graduation, graduates will be able to utilize contemporary and discipline specific tools to analyze and solve complex construction management problems that involve the application of mathematical and scientific principles, fundamental business and management concepts, and knowledge of infrastructure development.

Program Need

The U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Occupational Outlook Handbook (OOH) 2002-03 Edition projects a significant increase in construction management jobs. Moreover, there were over 431,000 jobs in the U.S. held by construction managers in 2004. Possibly because the Charlotte area is one of the fastest growing in the U.S., North Carolina is expected to experience a growth of 21 percent in jobs in the construction management area, according to labor market data. Additionally, data for the Metropolitan areas of Charlotte-Gastonia reveal that the average salary for construction managers is about \$79,000 a year. Further, excellent construction management opportunities are expected to grow through 2014 because the number of job openings exceeds the number of qualified individuals seeking to enter the profession. It is projected that the proposed program in Construction Management will have over 250 majors enrolled by the sixth year of operation. Additionally, similar to other universities with majors in construction management, it is projected that enrollments will continue to grow to over 500 students. This proposed degree program will develop needed intellectual capital and serve a business and industry need in the region.

Resources

The proposed degree program will share faculty with the existing Civil Engineering Technology Program. Moreover, the proposed B. S. in Construction Management will share several lower division and upper division courses with the existing Civil Engineering Technology program—maximizing the use of resources in these areas. Adequate facilities for the expected program's growth will be available, when other academic departments relocate this fall. The Library and Engineering Computing will be available to students in the proposed degree program.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Governors approve The University of North Carolina at Charlotte request to establish the Bachelor of Science in Construction Management effective August 2006.