

APPENDIX F

Request for Authorization to Establish a Bachelor of Science in Information Technology at Winston-Salem State University

Introduction

Winston-Salem State University notified General Administration of its intent to plan a Bachelor of Science degree in Information Technology (11.0103) on September 3, 2004. Winston-Salem State University seeks authorization to establish the program effective February 2006.

Program Description

The proposed Bachelor of Science in Information Technology will prepare graduates to solve a variety of problems related to computer system administration and information needs including digital circuits, hardware, applications software, operating systems, networks, and programming. The proposed program consists of courses in general education, computer science, physical science, life science, mathematics, in addition to elective courses. Further, it consists of courses in computer programming and mathematics foundations, operating systems, computer architecture, Internet technologies, database technologies, networking technologies, multi-media technologies, and other computer tools required to manipulate and manage information and computer hardware in a variety of application areas. The proposed program will be housed in the Department of Computer Science, located in the College of Arts and Sciences. The Department of Computer Science currently offers the Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science, and the School of Business offers the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Information Technology. The proposed B.S. in Information Technology will furnish access to the citizens of Winston-Salem and the Triad region to academic instruction in a high demand area.

The proposed Bachelor of Science degree program in Information Technology builds upon WSSU's Bachelor of Science degree program in Computer Science which currently enrolls 54 majors. The B.S. in Computer Science is accredited by the Computing Sciences Accreditation Commission (CSAC) and the Computing Accreditation Commission (CAC) of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, Inc. Graduates of the B.S. in Information Technology will primarily seek careers in technical service fields, computer applications, computerized manufacturing, and computer system support.

Program Need

Information technology is one of the centers of excellence established by Winston-Salem State University in its strategic plan. The university has a proven track record in the B.S. degree program in computer science with 54 majors. In the first semester, the department projects that it will have a minimum of 10 full-time students in its initial class. By the fourth year, it is projected that there will be 25 full-time students and two part-time students enrolled.

Resources

The proposed degree program will employ existing resources in computer science including faculty and facilities. It will be located in the new computer science building. The B.S. in Information Technology will be further supported from enrollment growth funds.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Governors approve the request to establish the Bachelor of Science in Information Technology at Winston-Salem State University effective January 2006.