

## APPENDIX M

### **Request for Authorization to Establish a Bachelor of Science Degree in Construction Management at Western Carolina University**

#### **Introduction**

Western Carolina University notified the UNC Office of the President of its intent to plan a Bachelor of Science degree in Construction Management (CIP# 15.1001) on October 9, 2001. The university requests authorization to establish the program in August 2002.

#### **Program Description**

This program will prepare graduates to assume leadership roles in construction management including the roles of site superintendent, field engineer, safety engineer, cost engineer, estimator, scheduler, and project manager. The curriculum will be responsive to social, economic, and technical developments and will reflect the application of evolving knowledge in construction and in the behavioral and quantitative sciences. The curriculum is designed to meet the American Council for Construction Education accreditation criteria and will contain several components: liberal studies, business and management, supporting mathematics, science and related technical courses, and courses in construction management. The intended program will primarily be for students who enroll as freshmen, although it can accommodate transfer students as well.

#### **Program Need**

As indicated in the WCU campus master plan, the educational program analysis prepared by Paulien & Associates, Inc., suggests that a construction management program would meet students' interest, provide professionals that are in demand regionally and nationally, and meet the strategic plan of WCU to grow in student population. Bureau of Labor Statistics projections for NC indicate that there is a significant need for construction managers and cost estimators. (In January 2001, the UNC Board of Governors approved a resolution supporting the use of construction managers on university bond projects to avoid delays, cost overruns, and other problems.) WCU estimates that after four years the program would have a steady enrollment of 100 full-time and 20 part-time students.

#### **Resources**

No new state resources are requested. New faculty positions in coming years will be funded from internal reallocation of resources and from growth in enrollment funding as the program expands. About half of the courses needed for program majors are already taught at WCU.

#### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Board of Governors approve the request to establish a Bachelor of Science in Construction Management at Western Carolina University effective August 1, 2002.