

Council of Chief Academic Officers

Wednesday, February 16, 2011
9:30 a.m.
or upon adjournment of SCOCAO
Kathy Rupp Conference Room
Reconvene Noon to 1:15 p.m.
Kathy Rupp Conference Room
1000 SW Jackson Street Suite 520
Kansas Board of Regents

AGENDA

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| 1. Approve Minutes of January 19, 2011 [Attachment 1] | 2 |
| 2. New Programs
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| 3. Program Requests
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| 4. Campus Input on the Retirement Research Survey (FHSU) | |
| 5. Other Business | |

AGENDA MATERIALS DUE	MEETING DATES	LUNCH ROTATION
August 25, 2010	September 15, 2010	KSU
September 20, 2010	October 20, 2010	PSU
October 20, 2010	November 17, 2010	ESU
November 16, 2010	December 15, 2010	WSU
December 15, 2010	January 19, 2011	KU
January 19, 2011	February 16, 2011	KUMC
February 16, 2011	March 16, 2011	Washburn U
March 23, 2011	April 20, 2011	FHSU
April 20, 2011	May 18, 2011	KSU
May 18, 2011	June 15, 2011	PSU

Council of Chief Academic Officers

**Wednesday, January 19, 2011
9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
Kathy Rupp Conference Room
Curtis State Office Building
Reconvene at
12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.
Kathy Rupp Conference Room
Curtis State Office Building
1000 SW Jackson Street Suite 520
Kansas Board of Regents**

MINUTES

The Council of Chief Academic Officers met on Wednesday, January 19, 2011 in the Kathy Rupp Conference Room, Curtis State Office Building in Topeka, Kansas at 9:30 a.m. and reconvened in the Kathy Rupp Conference Room at 12:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Larry Gould, Provost, FHSU	Tes Mehring, Provost, ESU
Jeff Vitter, Provost and EVC, KU	Gary Miller, Provost, WSU
Ruth Dyer for April Mason, Provost, KSU	Nancy Tate, Interim VPAA, WU
Lynette Olson, Provost, PSU	Gary Alexander, KBOR
Allen Rawitch, VCAA, KU Med Center	Randy Pembroke, VPAA, WU

Staff Present

Jean Redeker, KBOR, Jacqueline Johnson, KBOR and Joan Warren, KBOR

Approve Minutes of December 15, 2010

Larry Gould moved, and Gary Miller seconded the motion, to approve the Minutes of December 15, 2010 as submitted. No discussion followed. Motion carried.

University Press of Kansas (UPK) Annual Report

Fred Woodward, Director of the University Press of Kansas, submitted the annual report to the Council of Chief Academic Officers, the Board of Trustees for the Press. The UPK, for the first time since 1981, had a year when expenses exceeded income, but at a lesser amount than expected. This press has continued to do far more with less relative to its peers in nonprofit scholarly publishing.

Director Woodward also presented UPK's plans for the future.

The plan provides:

- Current Status
- Internal Weakness and/or Threats
- External Threats

- Internal Strengths
- The Future
- Plan for the Future

A copy of the “Planning for the Future” will be attached to the official minutes.

Discussion followed:

- Technology upgrades – transitioning backlist to e-books
- 12% savings using “print on demand” using a sub-division of Ingram Printing Company
- UPK will be experimenting with the Kindle within the next twelve months
- Student discounts
 - Amazon offers book discounts
 - Discussion of various ways to offer “student discounts”
- UPK’s biggest customers are professors and individuals interested in history and politics

Allen Rawitch moved, and Larry Gould seconded the motion, to accept the University Press of Kansas’ annual report and plans for the future. Motion carried.

New Program

KSU – Request Approval for a Professional Master of Technology (CIP 15.9999) (SECOND READING)

The Kansas State University proposed Professional Master of Technology (CIP 15.9999) was submitted for a SECOND READING. No comments were submitted.

Gary Miller moved and Tes Mehring seconded the motion to recommend placing the Professional Master of Technology for approval on the Council of Presidents February agenda. Motion carried.

FHSU – Request for Approval of a Bachelor of Science in Information Systems Engineering (15.1299) (FIRST READING)

Fort Hays State University submitted a proposal for a new Bachelor of Science in Information Systems Engineering (15.1299) for first reading. Please provide Larry Gould with comments prior to the February 2011 meeting.

A number of concerns were mentioned. The Council members will e-mail those concerns to Larry Gould.

Program Requests

KSU - College of Arts and Sciences Department of Political Science a New Minor in African Studies ESU – Academic Extension Specialty Program - The School of Library and Information Management (SLIM) Requests Approval of Continuation of an Academic Extension Specialty for the Period June 2011 through May 2021

The above listed program requests were presented. There was no discussion.

Gary Miller moved, and Allen Rawitch seconded the motion, to approve the new KSU minor in African Studies and the continuation of the ESU academic extension specialty program School of Library and Information Management for the period June 2011 through May 2021. Motion carried.

Program Information

- a. **KSU - College of Arts and Sciences – Department of Military Science: Drop: Minor in Military Science**
- b. **KU – A new track in Global Interagency Studies within the existing MA in Global and International Studies (CIP 30.2001) within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences**
- c. **KU – A New Concentration in Supply Chain Management within the BSB in Business (CIP 52.0301) within the School of Business**
- d. **PSU – Discontinuance of the BSEd Physical Science**
- e. **PSU – A new Emphasis - Option III for Professional Students within the Master of Science in Biology (26.0101)**
- f. **PSU – New Emphasis – Sustainability, Society and Resource Management within the Bachelor of Integrated Studies Degree (30.9999)**
- g. **PSU – New Concentration – Exercise Science Minor within the Exercise Science Program (CIP 13.1314)**
- h. **WSU - A New Advanced Networking Research Institute (ANRI)**

The above listed information items were submitted by Kansas State University, University of Kansas and Pittsburg State University. There was no discussion. If Council members have any questions and/or comments, please contact Lynette Olson, Jeff Vitter, or April Mason. No COCAO action is required.

Midwest Student Exchange Program (MSEP) Status

As discussed in the System Council of Chief Academic Officers today, Board staff presented information on MSEP to the Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee (BAASC) and received approval to review the criteria and present a proposal for Board action. A proposal will be on the February 2011 BAASC agenda.

Other Business

Fort Hays Retirement Research Survey

Council members will bring input from the campuses to the February 2011 meeting.

Meeting with Andy Tompkins

COCAO prefers to meet with Andy Tompkins on a Board meeting day.

New Washburn University Vice President

Nancy Tate, interim vice president, introduced Randy Pembroke, Washburn University's new vice president. COCAO welcomed him.

Jeff Vitter informed COCAO that the Council of Faculty Senate Presidents will meet with the Council today at 12:45 to provide COFSP input on transfer and articulation.

Meeting recessed at 10:30 a.m.

Meeting reconvened at noon in the Kathy Rupp Conference Room

Update on Chief Research Officers

The Chief Research Officers continue to work on forming a formal council. Currently they are working on a proposal concerning “conflict of interest.”

Council of Faculty Senate Presidents (COFSP)

Barbara Phipps, KU; Besty Cauble, KSU; Joella Mehrhof, ESU; and Barbara McClaskey, PSU were present to discuss the Transfer and Articulation draft proposal.

Transfer and Articulation Input regarding the draft document on transfer and articulation:

- Micromanagement
- More difficult process – beyond the scope of what is needed
- How big is the problem
- Collect data not just anecdotes
- Core Outcomes Project – what is it – Cost of this process
- Student preparedness and graduation
- Licensing and Certificate agencies criteria must also be met (ie nursing license; social worker license; etc.)

Discussion ensued along the lines of finding an approach that was appropriate in scale to the problems the Task Force was formed to address. Discussion topics included the following:

- What could facilitate transfer/articulation?
 - Greater transparency on what is accepted and what is not accepted
 - COED agreed that all of our institutions could be more transparent by providing transfer and articulation agreements for all Kansas community colleges and public universities on our respective websites in locations that are readily accessible by students considering transferring. It was also suggested that the KBOR website might be an additional source where each institution can have transfer agreements provided.
 - Common system outcomes more thoroughly articulated at the front end of the process
 - Portfolio piece as a possibility to capture student performance relevant to proposed learner outcomes
 - Recognize institutional specific learning outcomes and fact that variation in course outcomes affects transferability
 - Note that Foresight 2020 identifies several learning outcomes (including written/oral communication and critical thinking/problem solving) and institutions can choose which ones they will focus on
- Need a system for addressing transfer/articulation problems that would include:
 - Universities reporting on how they are proceeding with regard to transfer/articulation, and when/how they are addressing problems
 - Have data available on courses in general education that transfer
 - Track success of community college students who transfer to universities
 - Additional problem issues are:
 - Differing syllabi
 - Credits transfer but do not count toward degree
 - Students changing majors
- Specific actions that could facilitate transfer/articulation

- The value of having a central committee for students' appeal and the challenge of maintaining institutional autonomy
- Institutions post transfer and articulation policies on a main page of each institution's web site
- Credit Transfer automation needs improvement. Currently hand input into data systems. Automation could decrease errors and increase response time.
- Research potential for a system wide technology solution
- Provide information on course equivalencies
- Board of Regents develop interface to university sites regarding general education courses
- Costs of maintaining the statewide system
- Campus transcript analysts
- Recognize that determining a course counts towards a major is a decision made by the academic unit that is home of the major
- Faculty document why a decision is made in case there are questions regarding transfer credit

Institutions were invited to send to Gary Alexander any feedback they may want to provide the Task Force before its next meeting, which is scheduled for February 17.

COCAO recommended asking Regent McKechnie to meet with them in February to discuss the Task Force.

Tes Mehring moved, and Ruth Dyer seconded the motion, to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Sincerely,

Jeff Vitter
 Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor
 University of Kansas

Request for Approval of a Bachelor of Science in Information Systems Engineering (15.1299) – Fort Hays State University (SECOND READING)

Summary and Recommendation

Universities may apply for approval of new academic programs following the guidelines of Appendix G in the Kansas Board of Regents Policies and Procedures Manual. Fort Hays State University has submitted an application for approval of a Bachelor of Science in Information Systems Engineering (15.1299). The proposing academic unit has responded to all of the requirements of the program approval process. No other institution has programs utilizing this Classification of Instructional Program (CIP) code. The program will be funded through internal reallocation. 01/04/11

Background

<u>Criteria</u>	<u>Program Summary</u>
1. Program Identification	Bachelor of Science in Information Systems Engineering CIP: 15.1299
2. Academic Unit	Department of Informatics College of Business and Leadership Fort Hays State University
3. Program Description	Information Systems Engineering is a systematic and interdisciplinary means of approaching and exploiting information in and across physical, mathematical, business, social science, and information science disciplines. It is the incorporation of complex information systems involving software, digital storage and retrieval, computer networks, Human Computer Interaction, Information Security/Information Assurance, digital design, and electronic media.
4. Demand/Need for the Program	No Kansas institution offers an Information Systems Engineering degree. <i>The Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Handbook, 2010-2011 Edition</i> , Bureau of Labor Statistics (2010) projects that the second fastest growing category of occupations is “Network Systems and Data Communications Analysts.” Job growth in this category is projected to increase 53% between 2008 and 2018. This is projected to be the 2nd fastest growing occupational category in United States over the time period. The median 2008 wages for this category are \$71,100. 155,800 new jobs are projected to be created in this occupation category. Information Systems Engineers are a high value, high skill subset of the category. This category is projected by the Bureau of Labor Statistics to be the 15 th fastest growing occupational category. The Kansas Department of Labor similarly projects for employment growth between 2006-2016, it projects 54.7% growth for “Network Systems and Data Communication Analysts” with aggregate growth of 1096 jobs. A similar category of “Network and Computer Systems Administrators” is projected to have 34.9% growth with aggregate

	<p>growth of 1421 jobs. “Computer Software Engineers, Applications” are projected to have 44.7% growth with aggregate growth of 1,191 jobs. “Computer Software Engineers, Systems Software” are projected to have 35.3% growth with aggregate growth of 772 jobs. Dice.com – the leading technology recruitment website shows significant demand for Information System Engineers. A search using the term “Information System Engineer” (set on “match all words”) on August 24, 2010 returned 9541 job openings. 55 openings were Kansas/Kansas City geographic area.</p>
<p>5. Comparative /Locational Advantage</p>	<p>Fort Hays State University currently offers Bachelor of Science and Arts degrees in Information Networking and Telecommunications with concentrations in: Computer Networking and Telecommunications, Web Development, and Media Studies. It offers an Information Assurance emphasis at the undergraduate level and a graduate Information Assurance concentration in the Master of Business Administration and Master of Liberal Studies. It offers a Bachelor of Business Administration in Management Information Systems and a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics and Computer Science. It offers a Bachelor of Arts in Art and Design with a Graphic Design Program. It offers a Bachelor of Science and of Arts in Physics. All of these programs have unique strengths. Some are nationally and internationally recognized.</p> <p>A sample of Kansas employers who benefit from current programs include: Cerner, Garmin, Spirit, Koch Industries, Cargill, Sprint, Nex-Tech, Rural Telephone, Pioneer Telephone, CKT, Eagle Communications, Cisco Systems, Bombardier, Cessna, Sunflower Communications, KanREN, State of Kansas Department of Administration, State of Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services, University of Kansas Medical Center, Hays Medical Center, Grant County Hospital, Via Christi Medical Center, Stormont Vail Medical Center, Shawnee Mission School District, Hutchinson School District, Hays School District, and the Kansas Air National Guard. Information Systems Engineering will offer Kansas employers graduates who fill the need to effectively integrate multiple types of information and to distribute that information using a variety of types of networks and interface devices.</p> <p>Feedback from business and industry indicates that the one of the most attractive strengths of our students comes from the hands-on, interactive learning environment. Graduates and employers consistently note that because of the interactive instruction they received, they have been far more successful than graduates of other programs.</p>
<p>6. Curriculum</p>	<p>Information Systems Engineering is an interdisciplinary degree program heavily weighted in Mathematics, Physics, Computer Science, Information Networking, and including a key course from Management Information Systems. The degree will include a core of specific</p>

	Information Systems Engineering classes designed to provide the exoskeleton of the degree structure.
7. Faculty Profile	<p>The Information Systems Engineering program will build from existing Fort Hays State University faculty and academic strengths. Its pre-engineering program consisting primarily of Mathematics and Physics and the respective faculty of these departments will provide a proven academic base. Existing Computer Science, Informatics, and Management Information Systems faculty will contribute important coursework. Faculty teaching in these course areas are focused on quality undergraduate teaching. Faculty members in the support programs are proven researchers. The Physics faculty members have been campus leaders in involving students in undergraduate research and have been extremely prolific in this highly valuable activity. Faculty members comprising the teaching team include members who sit on national boards in their disciplines, conduct funded research for the United States Air Force, lead a national center of academic excellence, meet regularly with the National Security Agency on information assurance education, interact on a daily basis with companies such as Cisco Systems and NDG. All of these academic areas will require expanded capacity to meet expanded enrollments. New faculty will need to offer Information Systems Engineering coursework. Faculty expansion is budgeted in an accompanying legislative initiative approved by the Board of Regents in September 2010. New faculty members have not been recruited to staff the Information Systems Engineering coursework and will not be until a combination of legislative funds and internal reallocation occurs to fund this new program.</p>
8. Student Profile	<p>The students likely to enroll in the Bachelors of Information Systems Engineering are high performing students with strong backgrounds in mathematics, science, and information technology. Typically ACT scores will be 25 and above. The program will be initiated in conjunction with the Kansas Academy of Math and Science (KAMS) Summer Engineering Institute. The KAMS Summer Engineering Institute will help to orient students for a variety of engineering programs in Kansas, but will be a strong draw for students interested in attending Fort Hays State University who are interested in engineering. The University's state, national, and international reputation for its strength in computer and information oriented degrees will be an asset in recruitment of students to the Bachelors of Science in Information Systems Engineering. The ISE program will establish articulation agreements with Kansas community colleges, independent colleges, and regional universities to articulate pre-engineering students. The goal of the Information Systems Engineering Program will be to enroll 45-50 new freshmen students each year. The Kansas Department of Labor projection of additional need of over 1000 graduates annually</p>

	provides a solid basis on which to mount this program. Based on engineering program attrition rates in Kansas, it would expect to graduate approximately 25 students annually and to have an overall enrollment of approximately 150 on-campus students.
9. Academic Support	The current academic support services will meet the needs of the proposed program.
10. Facilities and Equipment	Fort Hays State University has a strong track record of leveraging state and tuition funding with federal grants and private donations to equip state-of-the art information technology laboratories. It will need to establish additional classroom lab space, faculty research space, and office space to accommodate the needs of the Information Systems Engineering program. After the academic program and legislative funding are approved, the university will need to begin a strategic process of expanding the Informatics Department labs and office space. It will also enhance its partnerships with leading information technology companies to encompass support for Information Systems Engineering. Both initial start-up funding and continuing funding for equipment and software are required to make this program viable. Fort Hays State University will build the Information Systems Engineering program on a strong established base in the departments of Physics, Mathematics and Computer Science, and Informatics. As enrollments in these support programs grow, additional office space and lab space will be required for these existing programs.
11. Program Review, Assessment, Accreditation	The Information Systems Engineering Bachelors of Science Degree will undergo a university program review at the conclusion of its fifth year of operation. It will be assessed annually as part of normal assurance of learning activities and reported in an annual departmental report documenting progress on goals. This assessment will be conducted using the framework described in the affinity diagram illustrated on the following pages. The program will not seek accreditation until the program moved from initiation to maturity. A program goal will be to seek accreditation through the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) after the first program review.
12. Costs, Financing	This budget is built on a partnership concept between Fort Hays State University and the State of Kansas on a 3:1 match. The Information Systems Engineering Program and the Kansas Academy of Math and Sciences Summer Engineering Institute budgets will total \$1 Million. This total will include the re-allocation of \$250,000 and a legislative allocation of \$1,000,000.

**CURRICULUM OUTLINE
NEW DEGREE PROPOSALS
Kansas Board of Regents**

I. Identify the new degree:

Bachelor of Science in Information Systems Engineering

II. Provide courses required for each student in the major:

Core Courses

MATH 235 Analytic Geometry and Calculus II	5
MATH 236 Analytic Geometry and Calculus III	3
MATH 240 Linear Algebra	3
MATH 646 Discrete Structures	3
PHYS 100 Introduction to Engineering Science	1
PHYS 212/212L Physics for Scientists and Engineers II/Lab	5
PHYS 332 Analog and Digital Electronics	3
CSCI 261 Computer Science I	3
CSCI 361 Computer Science II (C++)	3
CSCI 369 Java Programming or INT 651 Advanced Web Development	3
CSCI 466 Software Engineering I	3
CSCI 468 Software Engineering II	3
INT 291 Internetworking I	3
INT 250 Introduction to Web Development	3
INT 430 Leadership in INT	3
INT 650 Interactive Systems Design	3
INT 678 Seminar in INT Virtualization (or other approved ISE elective)	3
INT 684 Foundations of Information Systems Security	3
MIS 310 Production/Operations Research	3
INT 654 Web Enabled Databases: Oracle	3
ISE 300 Foundations of Information Systems Engineering	3
ISE 350 Game and Simulation Programming (or other approved ISE elective)	3
ISE 400 Internship in ISE	1
ISE 410 Law and Ethics in Information Systems	3
ISE 490 Capstone Seminar in Information Systems Engineering	3

General Education Required for the Program

MATH 234 Analytic Geometry & Calculus	5
MATH 250 Elements of Statistics	3
PHYS 211/211L Physics for Scientists and Engineers 1/Lab	5

Total Hours: 130

IMPLEMENTATION YEAR FY 2012
Fiscal Summary for Proposed Academic Programs
Institution: Fort Hays State University
Proposed Program: Information Systems Engineering

Part I. Anticipated Enrollment	Implementation Year		Year 2		Year 3	
	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time
A. Full-time, Part-time Headcount:	1 New FTE Program Director 1 New FTE Lab Technician 1 New FTE Classified Administrative Assistant		1 New FTE Program Director 1 New FTE Lab Technician 1 New FTE Classified Administrative Assistant FTE 3 Faculty Positions		1 New FTE Program Director 1 New FTE Lab Technician 1 New FTE Classified Administrative Assistant FTE 3 Faculty Positions	
B. Total SCH taken by all students in program	195 SCH		660 SCH		2310 SCH	
Part II. Program Cost Projection						
A. In <u>implementation</u> year one, list all identifiable General Use costs to the academic unit(s) and how they will be funded. In subsequent years, please include only the additional amount budgeted.						
	Implementation Year	Year 2		Year 3		
<u>Base Budget</u>						
Salaries	\$283,408	\$674,001.40		\$693,026.47		
OOE	\$385,000 OOE, Equipment & Software \$81,592 Remodeling	\$75,998.60 OOE, Equipment & Software		\$56,973.53 OOE, Equipment & Software		
Total	\$750,000	\$750,000		\$750,000		

Indicate source and amount of funds if other than internal reallocation: This budget is built on a partnership concept between Fort Hays State University and the State of Kansas on a 3:1 match. The Information Systems Engineering Program and the Kansas Academy of Math and Sciences Summer Engineering Institute budgets will total \$1 Million. This total will include the re-allocation of \$250,000 and a legislative allocation of \$1,000,000.

Revised: September, 2003

Approved: _____

January 24, 2011

Dr. Gary Alexander
Vice-President for Academic Affairs
The Kansas Board of Regents
1000 SW Jackson Street, Suite 520
Topeka, KS 66612-1368

Re: B.S. Degree in Information Systems Engineering at FHSU

Dear Dr. Alexander:

I asked Glenn E. Prescott, Professor and Chair of KU's Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, to review the proposal for the proposed degree program from Ft. Hays State University and to discuss it with several key individuals within the department. They focused primarily on the curriculum and the potential accreditation issues associated with this program as it is described on the Board of Regents web site.

The BS in Information Systems Engineering (BSISyE) degree fits between the B.S. in Information Technology (BSIT), which is less technical, and the B.S. in Computer Science (BSCS), which is more technical. This particular program is very much a computer science program with a built-in specialty in the study of information systems. Clearly, the BSCS is a broader program of studies, and graduates would qualify for many jobs that the BSISyE graduate would not.

The Information Systems Engineering degree is found in only a few schools in the US as a graduate program of studies. After a fairly extensive search of the web, we found no undergraduate programs in Information Systems Engineering, and that was surprising to us. This program should not be confused with Information Systems, which is an academic program normally found in business schools.

Program Content: The Information Systems Engineering curriculum is focused on the generation, transmission, processing, storage and protection of information, which is a subset of computer science. Graduates of this program would be involved in the design and development of databases, information storage and retrieval systems, and computer networks. They are not engineers of hardware. There is nothing in the FHSU degree program that would prepare a graduate of this program to design and implement any of the hardware they would use in their profession. They are primarily engineers of software that pertains in some way to information. Information Systems Engineers will fit well within large companies where they can design - from a systems perspective - the overall information technology infrastructure. They would not normally be involved in the design of a large enterprise software program (such as PeopleSoft, for example) or developing the software system to land a vehicle on Mars.

Accreditation: Looking at the curriculum proposed by FHSU, there is sufficient math and physics to support the study of an engineering discipline. However, it appears that most of the courses in the curriculum don't require calculus at any level, which is inconsistent with an engineering program. Several of the courses in their curriculum are also part of a certificate program in internetworking. This led us to question the accreditation issues that might be involved here.

One difficulty the BSISyE program will face is that it will have to satisfy two accreditation bodies within the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) – the Computing Accreditation Commission (CAC) and the Engineering Accreditation Commission (EAC).

The FHSU proposal articulates a curriculum and assessment plan that should satisfy the general accreditation requirements for CS/IS/IT. However, if it is evaluated specifically as an IS program (instead of just the general CS requirements), then accreditation may be difficult to achieve. Furthermore, there may be difficulty in achieving accreditation as an engineering program because of a lack of engineering courses.

General Observations: There is no doubt that Kansas is in desperate need of more IT professionals. Companies are begging for more graduates and FHSU serves an area of Kansas that other Universities do not. As such, FHSU needs to provide a rich set of opportunities for their students and potential employers in the information technology industry.

However, it is not clear to us what the BSISyE degree provides that a CS degree does not. The issue in Kansas is not the number of CS-type programs, but that they are undersubscribed. We need more students in CS, not more programs. The FHSU proposal says nothing about how they will fill the program or why it will fill when other similar programs are undersubscribed. The proposal names a collection of employers who would hire students from this program. However, few if any of their support letters come from those companies. Most of the support letters come from economic development organizations and alumni, with a few from local companies.

We believe that this program will compete with CS degrees at KU, K-State and WSU, to some extent. The potential employers identified in the proposal traditionally hire CS/CoE students and not IT students. Thus, if the information technology industry is interested in graduates of the proposed BSISyE program, then this program must either produce a new class of employees that these companies need, or produce graduates that are equivalent to a CS graduate.

Finally, we note that the FHSU proposal anticipates significant funding from the state of Kansas. In these tight budget times, it is unclear whether launching a new and unaccredited engineering program would be the best investment of limited state funds. The three existing accredited engineering programs within the state could better leverage the funds to build their enrollments.

Please contact me if you need further information.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey S. Vitter
Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor

JSV:lb



WICHITA STATE
UNIVERSITY

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
AND RESEARCH

Office of the Provost
and Vice President

COPY

Lawrence Gould
Provost
Fort Hays State University
600 Park
Hays, KS 67601-4099

January 25, 2011

Dear Larry,

Thank you for the thoughtful discussion during the COCAO meeting on Wednesday, January 19, 2011 regarding the Bachelor of Science in Information Systems Engineering, FHSU is proposing. As I indicated, we have serious reservations about this program. I am providing you with a summary of our observations regarding your proposal.

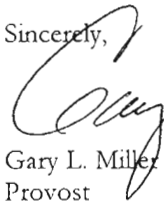
- It is our understanding that engineering and information system programs will be housed at the three Kansas research universities. Your statement during the meeting that, in making this proposal, FHSU is requesting an exemption to that understanding is unsettling in these difficult economic times. We believe that the most efficient way to meet the engineering needs in the state is to continue the growth of the three ABET accredited engineering programs.
- WSU (along with KU and KSU) has ABET accredited degree programs in computer engineering and computer science. There is significant overlap with these degrees in your proposal.
- Engineering programs are supported by extensive and costly infrastructure which includes specialized teaching and research faculty (required for accreditation). This infrastructure already exists at the research universities.
- We have extensive experience in working with potential employers of engineering graduates. Employers needing expertise in information systems hire graduates with degrees in information systems or computer engineering/computer science. To our knowledge, there is no accredited discipline in "information systems engineering." In fact, in order to be accredited by ABET, the proposed degree program would need to satisfy both the Computing Accreditation Commission and the Engineering Accreditation Commission Criteria as it combines "information systems" with "engineering."
- An essential piece of a successful engineering program is placement of students in the workplace for hands-on experience. WSU already has highly developed programs to accomplish this. For example:
 - WSU houses the only higher education-based Cisco Technical Research Center in the world. This facility provides student experiences in networking, computer storage, and information systems.
 - WSU heads-up the most comprehensive K-12 STEM effort in the state through the "Project Lead the Way" program funded by Knight Foundation/WIRED grants.

- The WSU Work-Based Learning Program is one of the largest in the region and has extensive experience placing undergraduate engineers.
 - Our close partnership with Wichita Area Technical College at the National Center for Aviation Teaching is designed to specifically enhance engineering training in Kansas.
 - The three research campuses with similar degree programs provide ample opportunities for graduate placement in the Wichita and Kansas City metropolitan job markets, where most of the employers listed in your proposal are located.
- Funding for the program is to come from request for an allocation of state funds. Such a request for funds for a program with substantial overlap could draw precious funds from three highly productive engineering programs already existing in the state at a time of great resource limitation. A better use of funds would be to enhance the existing programs in the state, and consider offering those programs in a collaborative fashion with FHSU.
 - The CIP code 15.1299 in the proposal refers to a degree program in Computer Engineering Technology. Engineering degrees are included with classification numbers starting with code 14.

I look forward to working with you to support your programs without promoting another engineering program in Kansas. One possible approach is to consider your program an interdisciplinary computer science track outside the framework of engineering.

I appreciate your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,



Gary L. Miller
Provost
Vice President for Academic Affairs and Research

GLM/lcm

C: Don Beggs
Gary Alexander
Jeff Vitter
April Mason
Zulma Toro-Ramos
Rick Muma
Fritz Hemans

**Kansas State University Response to the Fort Hays State University
Information Systems Engineering ISE Proposal
February 4, 2011**

From the Fort Hays State University (FHSU) proposal to the Kansas Board of Regents (First Reading, 01/19/2011): FHSU is requesting approval of a Bachelor of Science in Information Systems Engineering (ISE) (CIP: 15.1299). This program is to be housed in the Department of Informatics in the College of Business and Leadership.

Concerns and Issues:

1. **Overlap With Current Programs:** The proposed degree is very similar to the Computer Science (CS) and Information Systems (IS) degrees (particularly the IS degree) offered at the K-State Manhattan campus, and there are numerous similarities in technical course content to the Computer Systems Technology degree offered at the K-State Salina campus. With the exception of possibly two courses, the courses listed in the FHSU ISE degree program are similar to the required and elective courses in the IS undergraduate degree program at K-State. In addition, other K-State CIS courses, which are required in the IS degree at K-State, provide more in-depth foundation in computer logic and hardware. Hence, the proposed FHSU ISE degree has significant overlap with existing degree programs at both the K-State Manhattan and Salina campuses and would duplicate what students can already study at K-State.

The K-State CS and IS degree programs have about 200 and 45 students, respectively. There is plenty of capacity in our current programs to accommodate additional students. The smaller enrollment in the IS degree program also is reflective of the lower market demand for this degree. It is questionable that there is a sufficient demand for IS graduates to support another similar degree program in Kansas.

2. **Limited State Resources:** Based on the suggested degree name, FHSU is proposing to offer an "engineering" degree. To our knowledge, FHSU does not have any other engineering or computer science programs. Providing an engineering degree requires appropriately credentialed faculty members, specifically trained support staff, substantial facilities, equipment and other infrastructure needs. These items are not inexpensive, as is noted in the FHSU proposal. However, because of the budget cuts that have been imposed at our institutions over the last few years and the limited state resources, any effort to expand the numbers of engineering graduates in our state should be done through existing engineering degree programs and colleges such as those at K-State, KU, and WSU.

3. **Accreditation challenges:** Under item 4 in the proposal, FHSU states "No Kansas institution offers an Information Systems Engineering degree". Under item 11, FHSU also states "The program will not seek accreditation until the program moved from initiation to maturity. A program goal will be to seek accreditation through the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) after the first program review". ABET has four accreditation commissions: Engineering Accreditation Commission (EAC); Computing Accreditation Commission (CAC); Technology Accreditation Commission (TAC); and the Applied Science Accreditation Commission (AAC). Degree programs are accredited based upon program name, curricular content, faculty credentials, available facilities, and supporting infrastructure. Based upon the content of the proposed degree program, the likely accreditation commission would be the CAC. However, neither the CAC nor any of the other commissions have any criteria for an "Information Systems Engineering" degree. The CAC has criteria for Information Systems degrees (or similar names but not with the word "engineering"), and the EAC has a criteria for a "Systems Engineering" degree (but not Information Systems Engineering). The reason none of the other Kansas Institutions offer an Information Systems Engineering degree is likely because

this does not match up with any of the current program options for accreditation from the different ABET commissions.

The CAC criteria for IS degrees also state that "... some full-time faculty, including those responsible for the IS curriculum development, must hold a terminal degree in information systems." The FHSU proposal states that the faculty from mathematics and physics will provide the academic base, and that "... existing Computer Science, Informatics, and Management Information Systems faculty will contribute important coursework." From this description, it is not possible to determine whether the persons responsible for the curriculum design meet the CAC-ABET criterion that requires those individuals to "hold a terminal degree in information systems."

It is unclear how FHSU could accredit this program through ABET. ABET accreditation of any engineering or computer science related program is required in order for students to seek professional licensure. It also is very important to employers, since it ensures that the degree programs meet certain standards.

NOTE: We contacted the University of Maine to learn more about their Information Systems Engineering degree program, since we knew they had stopped offering their ISE degree in 2007. They offered this degree for a number of years, but never had much student interest (less than 30 students). Their ISE degree was previously accredited, but because of the name, it was accredited under both the CAC and EAC of ABET. This was both expensive and time consuming. Furthermore, their ISE program had substantial overlap with their Computer Science, Software Engineering, and Computer Engineering programs. These factors led to their decision to discontinue the program. We are aware that other schools (i.e. Johns Hopkins and NYU-Poly) offer a similar program, but only as a graduate degree (MS) program option.

4. CIP Code: The CIP code assigned by FHSU for this proposed degree does not appear to be the appropriate one for an engineering degree.



January 19, 2011

To: Gary Alexander
Vice President for Academic Affairs
Kansas Board of Regents

From: Richard Muma, PhD, MPH
Associate Provost

Re: Degree Title Change

This is a request for change in degree title. Please place on the next available COCAO agenda. We are changing the degree name for the M.A. in Gerontology as outlined below. In advance of this memo, we have made the request in program inventory on the KBOR Website.

Current

Degree: M.A. in Gerontology
CIP: 30.1101
Program Code: MA_GERON

New

Degree: M.A. in Aging Studies
CIP: 30.1101
Program Code: MA_AGE

The name change is intended to define the more inclusive and interdisciplinary nature of the program. Aging Studies captures the broad concerns and subject matter encompassed in the curriculum including the traditional gerontology focus on the biological, psychological, and sociological phenomena associated with old age and aging, as well as areas of administration and public health. Other than reorganizing content and course offerings, the overall curriculum will remain the same.

If you require further information, please contact me at the telephone number below or email me at richard.muma@wichita.edu.

Thank you.