April 23, 2008

TO: Janice Coker, Associate Vice Chancellor

FROM: Carol Mooney, Interim Dean
       College of Technology, Engineering & Management

RE: Response to the Program Review Committee – M.S. Technology Management

Attached you will find the responses from the Program Director of the M.S. Technology Management, the Chair of the Operations, Construction and Management Department and the Dean of the College of Technology, Engineering & Management related to the recent review of the M.S. Technology Management Program.
Recommendations for the Program Director
1. Pursue inclusion of a financial management course or integration with current coursework.
2. Seek opportunities to include global component/curriculum for program participants.
3. Continue efforts with established cohorts and develop plan to recruit additional students to program.
4. Seek classroom facilities with appropriate technology capacities and instructional flexibility.
5. Share students’ course evaluation concerns with faculty in the program.

Responses from Program Director:

1. The Business department has agreed to develop a Manufacturing Cost Analysis course for 2008-09 implementation. Key course requirements were collected from the Technology Management Advisory Committee at the spring 2008 meeting and forwarded to the Business department. The course will be offered as an elective course. The course will be assessed and if it meets program objectives, it will be considered as a required course in 2009 or 2010.

2. Per the recently approved strategic plan, the current global content of the program will be reviewed in Fall 2008. In 2009, the Program Director will identify possible partnerships with international universities. By the end of Fall 2009, the goal is to have a global requirement for all new students in the program.

3. The current plans are to continue operating one cohort at a time, rotating between distance sites. Per the strategic plan, an expanded marketing plan will begin in 2009, with the goal of increasing program enrollment to 70 students by Fall 2010. Three avenues for program growth are more local students, multiple cohorts, or an international partnership.

4. Concerns about classroom facilities are primarily from the distance education cohort students. As the program returns to distance sites, rooms and facilities will be selected based on ITV capabilities, room size, television screen size and resolution, and Internet access.

5. There were moderate concerns about course evaluation procedures. It is not clear if this is a general problem or if it refers to an isolated course. However, these concerns will be shared with all key faculty members in the program.

Recommendations for the Department Chair
1. Continue level of support for Technology Management Program.
2. Continue support of development of alternative course delivery.
3. Work with Dean to investigate the possibility of increasing program director allocation to allow more time for recruiting efforts and cohort oversight.

Response from the Department Chair
1. The department will continue to support the Technology Management students, program and program director.
2. The department will support the assessment and adaptation of instructional technology to support the delivery of courses in a variety of formats. We will support the procurement of the necessary technology through the customized instruction funds, as well as provide professional development opportunities to faculty and staff addressing both the use of technology and appropriate instructional strategies.

3. The department will support the increasing demand placed on the program director due to the growth of the distance education population in a number of ways. We will provide an additional contract for the summer session and continue to support a full time instructional specialist to share in this load. Further, we will continue to monitor the load and review the possibility of the use of an additional graduate assistant or additional program director contacts for cohort or market development should the demand warrant.

Recommendations for the Dean
1. Continue level of support and communicate with relevant Departments/Colleges to assist in continued program success during the university’s reorganization transition and into the future.
2. Continue support of development of alternative course delivery.
3. Review program director allocation for possible increase to aid in recruiting and co-hort oversight.

Response from the Dean
1. The college will continue to support the M.S. Technology Management degree program, especially during the transition and realignment into the new College of Management.

2. The College of Technology, Engineering & Management’s programs, directors and faculty have been leaders in the development and delivery of off-campus cohort programs. Departments have had to respond to the growing need for distance education delivery of coursework. Response from the Operations, Construction & Management department has been very good; numerous courses have been delivered via online, interactive television and blended formats. Faculty have been provided professional development to enable them the tools to deliver in a distance format. The new College of Management will continue to serve as leaders in distance education and provide support to participating faculty.

3. The college regularly monitors program enrollments. As enrollment increases program directors are provided additional resources as necessary. In the case of the M.S. Technology Management program, discussions are held periodically with the director to determine the need for additional release. Support is provided through a distance education instructional specialist as well as a graduate assistant. As the program continues to grow and new markets are developed, the release time and support provided to the program director will be revisited.