University System of Georgia Comprehensive Program Review

A. All Program Reviews

Please complete the following information. Note that the Degree/Major Name, Degree Acronym and the CIP Code MUST be the same as that listed in Degrees and Majors Authorized. You will need Adobe Reader to view this file. (http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html)

Please complete the following information:
Institution Name

Southern Polytechnic State University

Date (MM/DD/YYYY)

03/21/2003

Degree/Major Name

MS Engineering Technology / Electrical

Degree Acronym

MSET/E

CIP Code

150303

Degree Level

Masters

College/School/Division

School of Engineering Technology and Management

Department

Electrical and Computer Engineering Technology

Were other closely related programs reviewed as part of this program review? For example, if the BA and the BS with majors in Political Science are reviewed at the same time, provide that information.

- ○ Yes [Click here if you selected this choice]
- ◉ No [Click here if you selected this choice]

Provide the names of these other programs so that we may connect these reviews.

Were external reviewers used to evaluate the results of the program's self-study?

- ◉ Yes [Click here if you selected this choice]
- ○ No [Click here if you selected this choice]

If yes, please describe their role.

Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS)

Year of Next Scheduled Program Review

Year

Accreditations Obtained (please spell out acronyms)

Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS)

Year of initial accreditation or last program reaccreditation review

Year 1998

Faculty Resources. Describe the faculty resources associated with this degree program by describing the faculty dedicated to the specific program, to the general education program, to services courses for other programs, etc. Include in your discussion the use of full-time and part-time faculty.

Full Time Faculty

All full-time faculty teaches major classes and some have research responsibilities.

Asgill, Austin B., Associate Professor	Ph.D., University of South Florida; M.Sc., University of Aston in Birmingham; M.B.A., Florida State University; B.Eng.(Hons), Fourah-Bay College, University of Sierra Leone; P.E., Florida.
Dreyer, Robert N., Professor	M.S.E.E., University of Michigan; B.S.E.E., Northwestern University
Fallon, Thomas, Associate Professor	M.S.E.E., Georgia Institute of Technology; B.S.E.E., Georgia Institute of Technology
Thain, Walter E., Jr., Associate Professor	Ph.D., Georgia Institute of Technology; M.S.E.E., Georgia Institute of Technology; B.E.E., GIT
Wilcox, Daren R., Assistant Professor	M.S.E.E., University of Central Florida; B.S.E.E., University of Central Florida
Zia, Omar, Professor	Ph.D., Warsaw Technical University; M.S.E.E., Warsaw Technical University; B.S.E.E., Warsaw Technical University; P.E., California, Oregon, Georgia

Part-time Faculty
All part-time faculty teaches major classes

Maurice Long	Ph.D., M.S. Physics, B.E.E., Georgia Institute of Technology MSEE, Kentucky State University
Thomas Jr., Donald	PhD EE, University of California MSEE, University of California BSEE, Howard University

For more information on this program review, contact

Name	Steve Hamrick
Title	Assistant Vice-President for Academic Affairs
Phone	770-528-7238
Email	shamrick@spsu.edu

Was this review...
- (●) Scheduled? [Click here if you selected this choice]
- ( ) Triggered? [Click here if you selected this choice]

B. Scheduled Reviews of Programs

Use the *Short Form*, and complete for each program undergoing review.

MAJOR FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Major findings should focus on relevant factors from the Comprehensive Program Review Guidelines in the Academic Affairs Handbook. Major findings and recommendations should address the quality, productivity and viability of this program. (limit to 1000 words)

Quality

The graduate program of ECET department has a number of unique features that make it a quality program.

1. A close association with industry typified by the project, which involves students and their advisors in a problem of interest to a specific industrial organization. This is possible mainly due to the fact that the graduate faculty have not only the appropriate academic degree but also substantial industrial experience. Moreover, the program faculty has a wide range of backgrounds and technical interests with strong industry contacts.
2. The curriculum has 36 semester credit hours emphasizing practical applications as well as principles. To ensure the quality and integrity of graduate instruction, department head or program director review and monitor course syllabi. Further, all courses without exception has an associated laboratory. The contents of the courses, in many cases, are constantly evolving, so students benefit from frequent exposure to emerging new technologies.
3. Graduate students have a choice to complete a research-based thesis or a project-based thesis. These are scholarly investigations or projects, which culminate students' classroom and laboratory learning. Both the research and the project options require searching and exhaustive analysis. However, as it was mentioned above projects require implementation, building and testing of the

physical system. That is why research based thesis have 4 semester credit hours and project based thesis have 8 semester credit hours performed in two consecutive semesters.

4. Southern Polytechnic State University offers studies leading to advanced graduate degrees through the existing instructional departments. Graduate degree programs and undergraduate instruction share laboratories and other academic resources. More importantly, the graduate students have an opportunity to work with all departmental faculty and take advantage of their very wide range of expertise
5. The Curriculum has been well designed and is offered with a scheduling sequence, night and day, which readily accommodates most working professionals who need to obtain advanced technical education and degrees. It must be mentioned that in Atlanta metropolitan we are the only institution offering night classes.
6. Full-time faculty who has the time and dedication to develop new courses and provide continuity throughout the student's pursuit of the advanced degree teaches the majority of courses.

Productivity

1. There are no extraordinary expenses involved in the conduct of the graduate program's specific instructional objectives. For implementing our goals the available resources have been effectively employed. As it was mentioned above the graduate and undergraduate programs in ECET department share laboratories and other academic resources. Therefore, minimum additional resources, equipment and facilities are required.
2. Enrollment in our graduate program has increased continuously in the past 4 years. From a dip of 15 students in 2000 to 52 students in the spring of 2003. Judging by the number of applications recently received, the enrollment will increase much more in the fall of 2003. Some of the graduate faculty has been involved in research activities for a long time. However, in the past, due to the lack of an administrative mechanism for processing external research projects, such activities have not brought in much external funds. Presently, the faculty is working hard to obtain externally funded projects. The good news is that our industrial advisory committee and local industry partners are equally interested and motivated to provide us with projects and financial support.

Viability

As mentioned above the graduate program is noted for a number of strengths, which has made it a workable and successful program. An important factor contributing to the success of the program is also the student body. Due to the fact that graduate classes are offered at night, the majority of our students are working professionals with many years of practical experience. These are practicing professionals who come to us with substantial practical know-how and skills. Their goal is to expand their knowledge and expertise in order to cope with today's extremely fast pace of technology renewal.

There are four principle objectives to the graduate program in Engineering Technology.

1. To provide continuing in-depth technical education to the individuals who hold an ABET-accredited baccalaureate degree in Electrical or Computer Engineering Technology.
2. To provide advanced studies in electrical, electronic or computer technologies to help individuals advance there chosen careers.
3. Too provide additional technical education to those individuals who desire to teach at the college, technical school, or high school level.
4. To provide an opportunity for practicing professionals who posses an accredited baccalaureate degree in a related discipline, to shift their career path in to the electrical, electronic or computer fields.

The graduate program is unique in many aspects, it is supported by the industry and consequently the enrollment is growing, it is meeting the objectives in serving Georgia residents. Therefore it is recommended that the program be continued and supported.

C. Triggered Reviews of Programs

Use the *Long Form*, and complete for each program undergoing review.
Why was this program reviewed early? Briefly describe all that apply.

Low Enrollment

Few Graduates

Low Pass Rates on Licensure Exams

Other (specify)

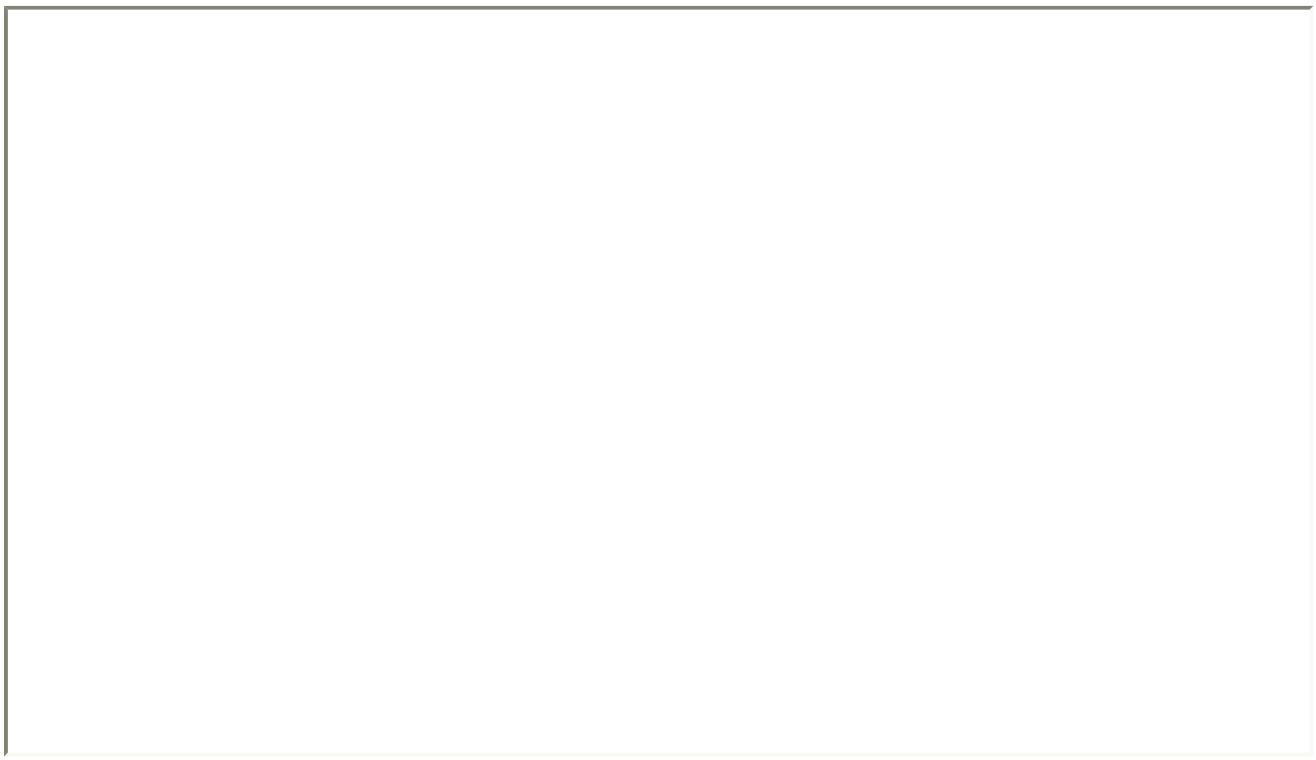
MAJOR FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Quality

Major findings should focus on relevant factors from the Comprehensive Program Review Guidelines in the Academic Affairs Handbook [resources, such as faculty qualifications, faculty/student ratio, or the budget; program, learning, and service outcomes, such as the success of graduates, faculty scholarly productivity, or the assessment of student learning outcomes; and processes, such as review of the curriculum]. What is the quality of this program? Why? (limit to 750 words)

Productivity

Major findings should focus on productivity factors (enrollment and graduates). If the program is continued, what will be done to enhance productivity? (limit to 650 words)



Viability

Recommendations on whether the program should be continued as is, continued and improved (enhanced, expanded, curtailed, or consolidated) or eliminated, addressing major questions:
A. Continue and strengthen the program

Should the program be continued as a separate degree program? If continuation is recommended provide sound and compelling reasons that reference
• Program centrality to the college or university's mission
• Program history of student demand and productivity over the last ten years
• Duplication of courses with other programs
• Distinctiveness of the program

If the recommendation is to continue the program, how will it become more productive? What actions will be taken to strengthen the program and make it more productive? How will funding be obtained to strengthen the program? Should the program be consolidated or merged with other existing programs? Which ones and why?

B. Discontinue the program

Should the program be discontinued as a separate degree program? If discontinuation is recommended provide sound and compelling reasons that reference
• Program centrality to the college or university's mission
• Impact on this or other departments or programs if the program under review is eliminated
If the recommendation is to discontinue the program What would be the timetable for discontinuation? Would there be any savings of funds or resources? How would those funds be reallocated?

Please use the Print button on your browser to print a copy of this form before submitting.