

MINUTES
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN INDIANA
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

March 7, 2019

The Academic Affairs and Enrollment Management Committee of the University of Southern Indiana Board of Trustees met on Thursday, March 7, 2019, in the Griffin Center on campus. Present were Committee Chair Ronald D. Romain '73, and Trustees John M. Dunn, Jeffrey L. Knight, and Ellis S. Redd. Also in attendance were Provost Mohammed F. Khayum, Vice President for Enrollment Management Andrew W. Wright and Vice President for Marketing and Communications Kindra L. Strupp.

Chair Romain called the meeting to order at 10:20 a.m.

1. APPROVAL OF A NEW DEGREE PROGRAM: BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN CIVIL ENGINEERING

The Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education proposed to offer a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. A complete abstract describing the program is in Attachment A. The proposed implementation date is fall 2019.

Provost Khayum introduced Dean Mitchell and Dr. Paul Kuban, chair of the Engineering Department, who both provided details surrounding the development and need for a civil engineering program.

On a motion by Mr. Knight, seconded by Mr. Dunn, the committee approved the recommendation to the Board of Trustees to approve the degree program in Attachment A.

2. ENROLLMENT UPDATE

Andrew Wright, vice president for Enrollment Management, gave a report on summer enrollments and fall 2019 applications. Summer 2019 enrollment for the three terms combined, for both undergraduate and graduate courses, is currently lower than the previous year. As the start of summer session nears, however, enrollment is increasing. Communications have been sent to students reminding them of the opportunity to receive financial aid for summer sessions.

Mr. Wright reported that freshman applications and admissions for fall 2019 have increased over last year, while transfer applications and admissions have slightly decreased. Admissions to graduate programs also have increased compared to fall 2018, even though graduate applications have declined slightly.

Mr. Wright concluded his report with information regarding graduate enrollment for spring 2019.

3. PRESENTATION ON THE MODERN ACADEMIC LIBRARY

Marna Hostetler, Director of Library Services, gave a report titled "The Modern Academic Library." She began her presentation by providing details on library staffing.

Ms. Hostetler explained what needs have developed recently for students and faculty, and how the library utilizes its space and technology to meet those needs. She discussed how USI students utilize current partnerships with other institutions to access larger databases of research information.

Ms. Hostetler concluded her report discussing new initiatives for the David L. Rice Library including the LILAC (Linking Information Literacy Across Campuses) pilot beginning summer 2019 and the SOAR (Scholarly Open Access Repository) scheduled to launch fall 2019.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:56 a.m.

ABSTRACT
Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering
To be offered on-campus only
By the University of Southern Indiana, Evansville, Indiana

Consistency with Institution's Mission:

USI's vision statement is: *shaping the future through learning and innovation*. The proposed Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering (BSCE) program directly supports USI's mission by enabling students to engage in learning, to advance in education and knowledge, and to enhance civic and cultural awareness. Through the Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering program, students will develop the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and critical thinking necessary to become successful civil engineers. Students will experience an applied perspective in the classroom with a focus on innovative real-world design problems. The program will respond to southern Indiana's need for a BSCE degree program.

Relation to Institution's Strategic and/or Academic Plan:

The proposed BSCE degree program fits USI's strategic plan by meeting the needs and goals of the Evansville metropolitan area as well as the region's many employment opportunities in civil engineering. The proposed degree will: 1) offer students enhanced experiential learning through hands-on experiences within each project and laboratory class, opportunities to participate in co-operative education and internships, and an active student organization; 2) help USI further its goal to improve recruitment and retention because it will be a discipline-specific engineering degree that is better understood and more readily recognized than the general engineering program degree; and 3) promote participation in engineering programs by members of underserved and underrepresented populations. The Department of Engineering has recently launched a generous scholarship program, specifically targeted at increasing diversity among engineering students. The BSCE program will serve these additional constituents with greater alternatives in degree.

Curriculum:

Completion of the Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering will require 127 credit hours of class material. These hours will include University's Core 39 (39 credit hours), an additional 39 credit hours from introductory engineering, math, and science courses, and 49 credit hours from the civil engineering core civil engineering electives, and engineering electives.

Employment Possibilities:

The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a faster than average (11 percent) employment growth rate for civil engineers (2016-2026). Long-term projections show Indiana having a 14 percent increase in new civil engineering jobs over the next ten years. Our Bachelor of Science in Engineering graduates with a civil engineering emphasis have had success securing jobs from regional employers. The recent demand for our civil emphasis students has exceeded the supply. We expect that creation of the new BSCE program will better prepare us to meet the current and future demand for civil engineers in the region.

According to the Indiana Department of Workforce Development (DWD), employment for civil engineers will increase by 10.6 percent nationally, and increase by 14 percent in Indiana (DWD 2018). The proposed BSCE program will serve the community, region, and state as well, by fulfilling an increased demand for civil engineers. In general, the majority of the graduates from USI engineering programs remain in the area to serve the surrounding community throughout their careers.