

ASACR 9

Office of the President
February 21, 2020

Members, Board of Trustees:

ACADEMIC DEGREE RECOMMENDATION:
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees approve the establishment of a Master of Science degree with a major in Supply Chain Engineering, in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, within the College of Engineering, beginning in the Fall 2020 Semester.

Background: There is a national skills gap and demand for professionals in supply chain-related careers. Demand in this area is reported to exceed supply by six-to-one. In Kentucky alone, there were more than 6,000 job postings for supply chain-related positions in the previous year. There are very few similar programs, and the most comparable in the country is not oriented toward working professionals. Via learning outcomes of understanding of supply chain fundamentals, competence in multidisciplinary interactions, and ability to use advanced mathematical modeling and simulation tools as well as contemporary programming languages, students will develop the expertise to design, install, and improve complex supply chains to operate in environments such as the Internet of Things (IoT) and digitalization.

This two-year, non-thesis program, to be offered in an online format, has been developed in collaboration with the Gatton College of Business and Economics. The program features nine hours of common core courses (shared with the Master of Science in Supply Chain Management), 15 hours of engineering-specific core courses, three elective hours, and three hours of capstone industry project. An initial cohort of 10 students followed by steady-state enrollment of 15 students is anticipated.

The program has the approval of the appropriate councils and the University Senate, and has completed the 30 day review process of the Council on Postsecondary Education. The Provost of the University supports this recommendation.

Action taken: Approved Disapproved Other _____