

DATE: July 14, 2005

SUBJECT: Nashville State Technical Community College, Technical Certificate in Web Development

ACTION RECOMMENDED: Approval

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: In 2001 there was a dramatic change in the IT Industry in the United States. This change had major impact in Tennessee also as the “dot.com” bubble burst and companies that had grown rapidly began to close.

Programs at Tennessee’s community colleges experienced declines in enrollment and employment of graduates dropped during the same time period because of the availability of experienced IT workers seeking employment. This trend has apparently now hit bottom and is beginning to turn upward. A recent annual survey conducted by the Nashville Technology Council found that the number of posted jobs in the IT industry has increased 90% over this same time one year ago. Even though the employment demand is increasing, employers are now seeking workers with different skill sets than was true five years ago. The proposed program is designed to provide an introduction to web development for individuals seeking to start, manage, or upgrade a web development project, or coursework to enhance their skills.

PROPOSED START-UP DATE: Fall 2005

Commission staff has reviewed program proposals according to the academic standards adopted by the Commission on November 14, 2002. Each standard is referenced below.

1.1.20A MISSION: The proposed program is consistent with the role and scope of the mission to serve a diverse geographic service area, providing high quality education and training opportunities.

1.1.20B CURRICULUM: The proposed curriculum requires completion of 29 semester hours. Three new courses are needed to implement the program. The certificate program offers students who desire skills in the use and application of Internet technologies and web development, an alternative to the A.A.S. degree in Computer Information Systems. The certificate will complement the current Computer Information Systems program and can articulate completely into the A.A.S. degree. The requirements are distributed as follows:

<u>Curriculum Components</u>	<u>Credit Hours</u>
General Education	N/A
Major Field Core	29
Electives	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	29

1.1.20C ACADEMIC STANDARDS: Admission, retention and graduation requirements are consistent with the standard requirements for the College. Students completing this certificate will be prepared to take nationally recognized exams (CIW Foundations and the CIW Web Developer).

Student Projections	Projected Program Productivity		
	Full-time Enrollment	Part-time	Graduates
Year 1	5	10	7
Year 2	10	12	10
Year 3	14	14	14

Enrollment projections are based on an informal poll of students in existing Computer Information Systems courses. These students were asked if they would have enrolled in the technical certificate if it had been available when they entered NSCC. Members of the advisory committee group indicated they would encourage students to enroll in the program.

1.1.20D FACULTY: No additional faculty will be needed initially. As the program grows, additional course sections may be needed. During both the Spring and Fall of 2004, all required currently existing courses had seats available in existing sections. The addition of new courses and their additional teaching load will be offset by a lessening of currently existing offerings.

1.1.20E LIBRARY RESOURCES: No additional library resources are required.

1.1.20F ADMINISTRATION/ORGANIZATION: The proposed program will be administered and housed in the Engineering and Information Technologies Division. The program coordinator will report to the Dean of Technologies.

1.1.20G SUPPORT RESOURCES: None-indicated

1.1.20H FACILITIES/INSTRUCTIONAL EQUIPMENT: No additional facilities, renovations or instructional equipment are required.

1.1.20I STUDENT/EMPLOYER DEMANDS: On January 21, 2005, the CIS program conducted an Industrial Focus Group to help identify curriculum changes that need to be made in the CIS program. The twenty business leaders represented at this meeting were asked to validate the National IT Skills Standards published by NWCET and refine the skills standards to more accurately reflect the needs of the IT jobs in the greater Nashville area. This information was used to help structure the curriculum.

The CIW Web Developer is a relatively new national certification in this field and many businesses are requiring it. The number of students requesting the CIW certification is expected to grow rapidly over the next three years. The college is working with local high schools through a Tech Prep grant. Four area high schools will offer the first level of training leading to this certification.

1.1.20J NO UNNECESSARY DUPLICATION: There is no duplication within the service area of NSCC, PSTCC and WSCC have similar technical certificates; SWCC has a concentration in their A.A.S., and a few community colleges offer courses in web development.

1.1.20K COOPERATIVE INSTITUTIONS: One of the primary goals of the proposed program is to form partnerships with surrounding high schools, colleges and businesses in the Middle Tennessee area to promote web development and to provide a seamless career pathway for students to attain their career goals.

1.1.20L DESEGREGATION: The program will not impede the state's effort to achieve racial diversity.

1.1.20M ASSESSMENT/EVALUATION AND ACCREDITATION: The success and productivity of the proposed program will be based on the annual placement rates of graduates, student evaluations, performance funding program review, Academic Audits, and feedback from Program Advisory Committee. The progress of the program will be measured by the number of graduates in that become gainfully employed or continue their academic studies. Alumni surveys would be used for evaluating the success of the degree program. No accreditation agency is available for the proposed program and there are no SACS implications.

1.1.20N ARTICULATION: Articulation agreements are planned with four area high schools as feeder programs. Articulation agreements are planned with Davidson and Dickson County high school systems as well as with Tennessee Technological University and University of Tennessee at Martin. These high school students will not be in the program during its initial years, are expected to add enrollment beginning with the third year.

1.1.20O EXTERNAL JUDGMENT (Graduate Programs): N/A

1.1.20P COST/BENEFIT/SOURCE: The proposed program is designed to bridge the gap between skills taught in the schools and skills required by industry. Completion of this technical certificate will equip graduates with up-to-date skills that are aligned with current trends and needs of employers in the local workforce. The technical certificate will complement the Computer Information Systems A.A.S. program by allowing workers to concentrate on learning the technical skills without the time required to complete the general education courses required to complete A.A.S.

The initial setup cost of the courses, \$36,505 is being funded by a Model Sequence of Courses grant from the Tennessee Tech Prep Deans of Technology Project. These funds have made it possible for the college to develop new courses to establish this certificate program.

FINANCIAL PROJECTIONS

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
1. Expenditures	\$0	\$0	\$0
A. One – time:			
New/renovated space			
Equipment			
Library			
Consultants			
Other			
Total for One-time Expenditures	\$0	\$0	\$0
B. Recurring:			
Administration			
Faculty*			
Staff	\$0	\$2,700	\$4,050
Benefits			
Equipment			
Library			
Travel			
Other			
Total for Recurring Expenditures	\$0	\$2,700	\$4,050
TOTAL (A + B)	\$0	\$2,700	\$4,050
*Additional sections for courses taught by adjunct faculty			
2. Revenues			
State appropriations (new, FTE)			
*State appropriations (old)			
Tuition/Fees	\$12,294	\$14,343	\$17,417
Institutional Resources			
Grants/Contracts			
Gifts			
Other (in-kind donations, etc.)			
TOTAL REVENUES	\$12,294	\$14,343	\$17,417

1.1.30 POST APPROVAL MONITORING: An annual performance review of the proposed program will be conducted for the three years following approval. The review will be based on goals established in the approved program proposal.