

DATE: July 17, 2003

SUBJECT: Annual Post Approval Monitoring Reports

ACTION RECOMMENDED: Information

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: In accordance with the academic standards adopted by the Commission on November 14, 2002 new academic programs approved by the Commission must be monitored following their initial approval. Programs at the baccalaureate level and above must be monitored for five years following approval and pre-baccalaureate programs must be monitored for three years following approval. The following programs were approved between 1997 and 2002 are scheduled for post approval review this year:

- Doctoral Programs – 9 programs
- Educational Specialist – 3 programs
- Master’s – 13 programs
- Baccalaureate – 18 programs
- Associate – 21 programs
- Certificate – 21 programs
- Regents On-Line Degree Program (RODP) – 5 programs*

Annual performance reviews of new programs are conducted based on goals established in each approved program proposal. At the end of the monitoring period, campus, governing board, and Commission staff perform summative evaluations. The goals include, but are not be limited to, enrollment and graduation numbers, program cost, progress toward accreditation, library acquisitions, student performance, and other goals set by institutions and agreed to by governing board and Commission staff.

As a result of post approval reviews, programs found to be deficient or low producing, may be recommended for consolidation or termination. Programs that do not meet projections based on goals established in approved proposals will be closely scrutinized. Additional information will be required to justify exceptions to determine if extenuating circumstances have resulted in failure to reach goals. Copies of such recommendations will be forwarded to the Education Committees of the General Assembly. The Commission also may choose to extend this period if additional time is requested by the governing boards.

*All reports indicate that the Regents On-line Programs exceed projections. Detailed data will be available during the Commission meeting, upon request.

Doctoral Programs

- Table 1 denotes the nine doctoral programs that were approved by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission from January 1997 – January 2002.
- Four of the nine doctoral programs have awarded degrees since the programs were implemented:
 - >Environmental Sciences at Tennessee Technological University (2)
 - >Exceptional Learning at Tennessee Technological University (5)
 - >Audiology at University of Tennessee, Knoxville (15)
 - >Nursing Science at UT Memphis Health Sciences Center (38).

Table 1: Doctoral Programs

Institution	Doctoral Program	THEC Approval	Enrollment Projections Met?					Average
			Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	
TSU	Biological Sciences	1997	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	5
TSU	Computer & Info Systems Engineering	2000	No	No				3
TTU	Environmental Sciences	1997	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	10
TTU	Exceptional Learning	2000	No	No	No			20
UoM	English: Writing & Language Studies	1999	Yes	Yes	Yes			10
UoM	Audiology	2000	Yes					7
UTK	Audiology	2002	Yes					31
UTK	Natural Resources	2002	Yes					18
UTMHSC	Nursing Science	1998	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	21

Educational Specialist Programs

- Table 2 denotes the three Educational Specialist programs that were approved by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission from 1998-1999.
- The Educational Specialist degree program is offered for students who wish to pursue course work beyond the Master’s degree.
- The School Psychology program at Tennessee State University did not meet the minimum requirements of awarding five degrees annually.

Table 2: Educational Specialist Programs

Institution	Specialist Program	THEC Approval	Degrees Awarded Projections Met?					Average
			Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	
TSU	Educational Administration	1998	--	No	No	Yes	Yes	20
TSU	School Psychology	1999	--	--	No	No		2
UTC	Advanced Educational Practice	1998	--	--	No	No	No	14

Master's Programs

- Table 3 denotes 13 Master's programs approved by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission from January 1997 – January 2001.
- Four of these new programs were Physical Therapy programs at East Tennessee State University, Tennessee State University, UT Chattanooga, and UT Memphis Health Sciences Center. Since that time, the physical therapy programs at UT Chattanooga and UT Memphis Health Sciences Center have been upgraded to doctoral level to fulfill the accreditation requirements. The physical therapy program at East Tennessee State University is on the July 17, 2003 agenda for approval.
- Five of the 13 Master's programs implemented have achieved less than the minimum of five graduates per year.

Table 3: Master's Programs

Institution	Masters Program	THEC Approval	Degrees Awarded Projections Met?					Average
			Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	
ETSU	Liberal Studies	1997			Yes	Yes	Yes	10
ETSU	Physical Therapy	1998	--	Yes	Yes	Yes		16
ETSU	Professional Communications	1999	--	Yes	Yes			3
TSU	Speech and Hearing	1997	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	25
TSU	Physical Therapy	1998	--					0
UoM	Liberal Studies	1997			Yes	Yes		10
UoM	Electronic Commerce	2000	Yes					5
UTC	Health & Human Performance	1997			No	No	No	12
UTC	Physical Therapy	1998	Master's program upgraded to Doctor of Physical Therapy (THEC Meeting April 2003)					
UTM	Agricultural Operations Management	2001	--	No				0
UTMHSC	Epidemiology	1997	--	Yes	No			3
UTMHSC	Clinical Laboratory Sciences	1998	--	--	No	No	No	2
UTMHSC	Physical Therapy	1998	Master's program upgraded to Doctor of Physical Therapy (THEC Meeting April 2003)					

Baccalaureate Programs

- Table 4 denotes the 18 baccalaureate programs that were approved by the Commission from January 1997 – January 2002.
- Five of the 18 programs approved have awarded on average the minimum 10 graduates.

Table 4: Baccalaureate Programs

Institution	Baccalaureate Program	THEC Approval	Degrees Awarded Projections Met?					Average
			Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	
APSU	Spanish	1998	--	No	No	No	No	1
ETSU	Surveying & Mapping Science	1997	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	11
ETSU	Allied Health	1999	--	--				0
ETSU	Dental Hygiene	2000	--	--				0
ETSU	Applied Science	2001	--	--				0
MTSU	Athletic Training	1997	No	No	No			6
MTSU	Organizational Communication	1999	--	--	No	No		6
MTSU	Entrepreneurship	2000	--	No	No			3
TTU	World Culture & Business	--	Yes	Yes	No	No		7
TTU	Computer Engineering	1998	No	No	No	No	No	6
UoM	Microbiology & Molecular Cell Studies	1997	--	Yes	No	No	No	3
UoM	Hospitality and Resort Management	1999	--	--	--	--		0
UoM	Integrative Studies	1999	No	No	No			51
UoM	Computer Engineering	1999	--	Yes	Yes			3
UoM	Physical Education Teacher Education	2000	Yes					12
UoM	African & African American Studies	2000	--					1
UTC	Occupational Therapy	1997	--	--	--	--	--	16
UTK	Computer Engineering	2000	--	Yes	Yes			15

