



SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

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MEMORANDUM

To: Mr. R. Austin Gilbert, Jr., Chairman, and Members,
Commission on Higher Education

From: Ms. Dianne Chinnes, Chairman,
Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing

Consideration of Request for Amendment of License

ITT Technical Institute, Greenville

A.A.S. in Information Technology (Computer Network Systems, Multimedia, Software Applications and Programming, and Web Development)

Summary

ITT Technical Institute requests an amendment to its license to offer in Greenville an additional program leading to the A.A.S. degree in Information Technology (IT).

The Commission has licensed ITT Technical Institute in Greenville since July 9, 1992. At its meeting on February 4, 2000, the Commission renewed the license for five years. The Greenville branch is one of a network of 67 co-educational, non-denominational private for-profit career schools in 28 states operated by ITT Educational Services, Inc., a Delaware corporation (ESI). ESI is a publicly traded corporation, meaning that its stock and, therefore, its ownership is openly traded by the public on a recognized securities exchange. For accreditation and Title IV financial aid eligibility purposes, the Greenville campus is a branch of the Nashville, Tennessee, campus. The Nashville campus began offering associate of applied science degree programs in September 1984 and a bachelor of applied science degree program in September 1993.

Effective June 15, 1999, the Accrediting Commission of Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS) accredited ITT in Nashville and its branches in Greenville and Cincinnati. The Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges of Technology (ACCSC) previously accredited ITT Nashville and its two branches.

The need for IT personnel is well documented:

- ❖ The U.S. Department of Commerce, Office of Technology Policy issued a 1997 report *America's New Deficit: The Shortage of Information Technology Workers*.
- ❖ The top three occupational groupings projected by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (B.L.S.) to have the fastest growth between 1996 and 2006 are all in IT. They are database administrators, computer support specialists and all other computer scientists; computer engineers; and systems analysts.
- ❖ These same computer occupations are among the top 10 on the B.L.S. list *Occupations That Have It All: Fast Growth, High Earnings, and Low Unemployment*.
- ❖ Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech) and the Information Technology Association of America (ITAA) collaborated on a 1998 research project to advance understanding of IT industry needs. Some of the key findings included: 346,000 IT positions were vacant; IT vacancies per company did not vary significantly across regions of the country; and the two most challenging training issues were found to be the fast pace of changing technology and finding qualified trainers.
- ❖ The S.C. Employment Security Commission, Labor Market Information Department, projects 5,890 IT annual average job openings for 1996-2006.

The ITT curriculum is the evolutionary successor of a program entitled Computer Network Systems Technology (CNST). ITT curriculum staff developed the CNST program in 1996 with the assistance of professional IT consultants as a direct response to marketplace demand. ITT began offering the CNST program in 1998 in Utah, Nebraska, and Washington. A total of 31 Institutes offered the program in 1999.

The industry began to segment itself into more defined areas of specialization. With the assistance of the CNST Advisory Committee, the program was refined to provide a broad-based foundation and the necessary specialized skills that meet business and industry needs for technically competent information technology professionals. Within information technology environments, graduates can expect employment in careers that require communication skills, the ability to accept multi-tasking situations, and the ability to assess users' needs when developing computer-based solutions.

ITT projects that it will enroll 15 students in the term beginning September 5, 2000. Students progress as a cohort. The school may admit a student who exceeds the age of compulsory school attendance, possesses a high school diploma or a recognized

equivalency certificate, and passes the admission tests. Students applying for admission into the IT program must score at least 22 on the Wonderlic Test Form IV or V. The school estimates that the total program cost for students starting in 2000 (including application fee, registration fee, estimated cost of books, tools, and supplies, laboratory fee, tuition, and administrative fee) is \$27,760.

ITT in Greenville occupies approximately 22,065 square feet of space in the Patewood Business Center. The space has been reconfigured and expanded to include a fully-equipped IT computer lab. The facility includes five theory classrooms, three electronics labs, three combined computer/theory labs, administrative and faculty offices, student lounges, and the library.

The library provides the students and faculty with learning materials and resources. The students have access to computers on which they can prepare assignments, resumes, and correspondence. They are able to access ITT's Virtual Library at the Indianapolis, Indiana, campus for UMI ProQuest and EBSCO databases. The corporate library in Indianapolis employs a full-time librarian; the Greenville branch employs a full-time librarian; and students can send e-mail inquiries to the corporate web site where they will receive assistance from any of four librarians within the ITT system.

Students may complete the IT program in a minimum of eight quarters (two years). The curriculum is 96 quarter hours and includes 24 quarter hours in general education, 24 quarter hours in core requirements, and 43.5 quarter hours in one of four areas of specialization. The attached table (Attachment I) shows the courses required for each specialization.

Instructors must have a bachelor's degree with a minimum of three years of related experience. Computer Network Systems, Multimedia, and Web Development are very new and dynamic. Those with experience in those fields will not likely have degrees that relate to computers. To assure competence to teach, ITT prescribes the experience needed to teach each of its IT courses.

Recommendation

The Committee recommends that the Commission approve amendment of ITT Technical Institution's license to offer programs leading to the A.A.S. degree in Information Technology with specializations in Computer Network Systems, Multimedia, Software Applications and Programming, and Web Development.

ITT TECHNICAL INSTITUTE
A.A.S. in Information Technology

General education requirements (24 quarter credit hours):

- GE127 College Mathematics I
- GE117 Composition I
- GE217 Composition II
- GE237 Microeconomics
- GE267 Contemporary Art
- GE347 Group Dynamics

Core Requirements (24 quarter credit hours):

- IT100 Computer Architecture
- IT101 Introduction to Information Technology
- IT102 Needs Assessment & Project Planning
- IT103 Operating Systems
- IT104 Introduction to Computer Programming
- IT105 Graphic User Interface Design/Development

Courses required for specializations (43.5 quarter credit hours each):

Computer Network Systems	Multimedia	Software Applications and Programming	Web Development
IT108 Network Concepts & Data Networks IT214 NT IT202 TCP/IP IT200 LINUX IT205 Application Software Installation IT206 NetWare IT208 WAN Technology & Application IT307 Network Systems Management IT301 Network Technology & Service Integrn IT300 Web Server Administration IT303 Network Development Project	IT107 Instructional Design IT209 3-D Modeling IT210 Visual Design Theory IT211 Interactive Content Design I IT212 Broadcast Graphics IT309 Animation I IT310 Audio/Video Techniques IT311 Animation II IT 213 Interactive Content Design II IT204 Scripting and Web Authoring I IT312 Multimedia Development Project	IT106 Programming in C++ I IT203 Database Development IT217 Programming in C++ II IT207 College Mathematics II IT218 Programming in JAVA I IT200 LINUX IT219 Programming in JAVA II IT305 College Mathematics III IT306 Software Applications Programming IT204 Scripting and Web Authoring I IT308 Software Development Project	IT108 Network Concepts & Data Networks IT210 Visual Design Theory IT204 Scripting and Web Authoring I IT201 Web Site Design IT203 Database Development IT215 Scripting and Web Authoring II IT216 PERL & CGI in LINUX Environment IT300 Web Server Administration IT313 Scripting and Web Authoring III IT314 Web Ethics and Security Management IT304 Personal Products & Portfolio Development