

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
AT URBANA - CHAMPAIGN

Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor  
for Academic Affairs

Swanlund Administration Building  
601 East John Street  
Champaign, IL 61820



February 3, 2011

Abbas Aminmansour  
117 Temple Buell Hall  
611 E Lorado Taft Dr.  
MC-621


Dear Professor Aminmansour, Chair:

Enclosed are copies of a proposal by Chancellor Easter (Interim) and Provost Wheeler (Interim) to close the Institute of Aviation. Your committee has previously approved a proposal to eliminate the BS in Aviation Human Factors, the Professional Pilot Curriculum, and the MS in Human Factors in the Institute of Aviation.

As a final component to their response to the *Stewarding Excellence* review of the Institute, Chancellor Easter and Provost Wheeler explored whether non-degree flight certification programs should be created within the Institute. That further review has now been completed and a decision has been made not to pursue a non-degree certification program. With the resolution of that last remaining question and the proposed elimination of the degree programs, no active programs will exist within the Institute.

We are aware of the issue raised by the University Statutes and Senate Procedures Committee regarding Standing Rule 13. Upon notice that your committee is prepared to review this proposal, we will take the necessary steps to arrange an appropriate forum for a public hearing and to publicize the date and time of that hearing. In order to allow the Senate to jointly consider our proposals related to the Institute of Aviation, we will ask that the Senate hold our earlier proposal until after the EPC has held its public hearing on our current proposal to close the Institute. In recognition of subpart b of Standing Rule 13 which requires a vote of the faculty of an academic unit that is the subject of a proposed closure, we note that the Institute of Aviation does not have any tenure-track faculty. Notwithstanding this fact, we will not object to a vote of the previous voting faculty, as defined by the Institute's bylaws.

Sincerely,



Kristi Kuntz  
Assistant Provost  
for Undergraduate Education

## **Proposal to the Senate Educational Policy Committee**

### **PROPOSAL TITLE:**

Close the Institute of Aviation.

### **SPONSOR:**

Robert Easter  
Vice President of the University of Illinois  
Chancellor, Urbana Campus (Interim)

Richard Wheeler  
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost (Interim)

### **BRIEF DESCRIPTION:**

This proposal recommends the Institute of Aviation be closed when students currently enrolled in the Institute of Aviation have completed their degrees.

### **JUSTIFICATION:**

In the previous response to the Stewarding Excellence review of the Institute of Aviation, the question of whether the Institute of Aviation should consider offering a non-degree flight certification program was left open. The Illinois Business Consulting Group was asked to conduct market analyses and to assess the financial feasibility of creating a self-supporting non-degree flight certification program. Upon review of their analyses and other information, it has been concluded that it is not appropriate to pursue creation of a non-degree flight certification program.

EP.11.15, proposing the elimination of the academic programs within the Institute of Aviation, was considered and approved by the Educational Policy Committee on November 15, 2010. With the decision not to pursue creation of a non-degree certification program and the proposed elimination of the degree programs, no active programs will exist within the Institute.

**BUDGETARY AND STAFF IMPLICATIONS:** *(Please respond to each of the following questions. Place your response right after each item. See Appendix A for questions required of new degree program proposals as well additional notes regarding budgetary and staff implications.)*

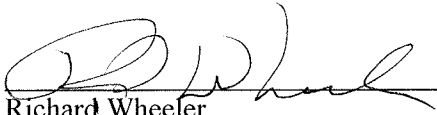
- a. Additional staff and dollars needed – None.
- b. Internal reallocations (e.g., change in class size, teaching loads, student-faculty ratio, etc.) – None.
- c. Effect on course enrollment in other units and explanations of discussions with representatives of those departments – None.
- d. Impact on the University Library *(A letter of acknowledgement from the University Librarian must be included for all new program proposals.)* – None.
- e. Impact on computer use, laboratory use, equipment, etc. – None.

**DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE:** Cease admissions Fall 2010; eliminate degrees upon completion of current students' studies, anticipated end of AY 2013/2014; phase down operations of the Institute concurrent with completion of current students' studies.

**STATEMENT FOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY CATALOG:** Not applicable.

**CLEARANCES:** (Clearances should include signatures and dates of approval) - - These signatures must appear on a separate sheet. If multiple departments or colleges, add lines.)

Signatures:



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Richard Wheeler  
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost (Interim)

2/3/18

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Date:



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Robert Easter:  
Vice President of the University of Illinois,  
Chancellor, Urbana Campus (Interim)

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Date:

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Educational Policy Committee Representative:

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Date:

**Appendix A:**  
**(Budgetary and Staff Implications)**  
*(Replace following material with your appendix, if any.)*

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**New Degree Programs – Required Budgetary Implication Questions**

- 1) How does the unit intend to financially support this program?
- 2) Will the unit need to seek campus or other external resources?
- 3) If no new resources are required, how will the unit create capacity or surplus to appropriately resource this program? (What functions or programs will the unit no longer support?)
- 4) Please provide a market analysis: What market indicators are driving this proposal? What type of employment outlook should these graduates expect? What resources will be required to assist students with job placement?
- 5) If this is a proposed graduate program, please discuss the programs intended use of waivers. If the program is dependent on waivers, how will the unit compensate for lost tuition revenue?

**Revised Programs – Notes on Budgetary and Staff Implications**

*In the past, many of the proposals for revised curricula and programs submitted to the Senate Educational Policy Committee have carried the claim, “Budgetary and Staff Implications: None.” Yet some of these proposals have called for increases in required courses or hours of faculty-supervised experience; some have projected that more students would enroll in the program when the proposed change was put into effect; some programs even increased the total number of hours or courses required for a degree. Presumably, the words “Budgetary and Staff Implications: None” meant that the unit proposing the change was not requesting new dollars or faculty lines to implement the change. However, it is difficult to see how there can be increases in the number of required courses or students served without entailing budgeting implications. If new dollars are not allocated to meet these increases, the increases may be covered by offering current classes less frequently, by increasing class size, or by increasing faculty workloads.*

*The Committee is concerned that in many cases the faculty of a unit may agree to accept increased class size or larger workloads because they perceive that changes requiring additional dollars will be difficult or impossible to achieve. While such a decision may indeed be defensible, a pattern of such decisions represents an erosion in faculty compensation and may, if class size is increased, lead to an erosion in educational quality. Less frequent scheduling of present courses may also have broad educational policy implications.*

*When courses outside the sponsoring unit are required, the units offering those courses may say routinely that yes, they can accommodate the additional students, when in fact the sections presently offered may already be full or even be overenrolled. If this is the case, the new or*

*revised program obviously has budgetary implications for the campus even if the sponsoring department requests no additional funds. EPC requires written concurrence from the executive officer of any unit offering courses outside the unit sponsoring the proposal. Finally, new or revised programs may well require additional library acquisitions, allocations of computer time, access to laboratories, or other support services, all of which have budgetary implications.*

*Providing information about internal reallocations, the effect of the change on enrollments in other departments, and the impact in auxiliary units will help the Educational Policy Committee make better decisions and help the college and campus incorporate the budgetary implications of new and revised programs in a more timely and deliberative manner.*