Agenda Item: I.A.

DATE: January 24, 2008

SUBJECT: Post-Approval Monitoring Status Report

ACTION RECOMMENDED: Information

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: In accordance with the academic standards adopted by the Commission in 2002, new academic programs approved by the Commission must be monitored following their initial approval. Programs remain in the monitoring cycle for five years at the baccalaureate level and above and three years for pre-baccalaureate programs following approval.

At the January commission meeting of each year, staff provides the Post Approval Monitoring Reports for programs that are within the three or five year monitoring cycle.   The criteria for reviewing programs are based on goals established in the approved program proposal. The goals include, but are not limited to enrollment and graduation ratios, program cost, progress toward accreditation, library acquisitions, and other goals set by the institution and agreed upon by the governing boards and Commission staff.

If deficiencies are noted during the monitoring cycle, THEC requests information to explain the deficiencies and specific plans for corrective action or recommend programs for termination. Staff also may choose to extend the monitoring period, if additional time is needed and requested by the governing board.

There are various reasons why programs may not meet projected benchmarks. The implementation of programs can be delayed due to difficulty of hiring faculty, inadequate recruitment practices, changes in labor market demands, or other issues not within the control of the institution. Institutions are therefore required to submit Program Productivity Plans to indicate the strategies and plans for correcting deficiencies, plans for termination, or to request an extension of time in the monitoring period.

For the 2006-07 Post Approval Monitoring cycle, close to 70 programs were reviewed in this cycle. Of the programs reviewed, 45 programs achieved their projected benchmarks and 15 academic programs did not meet their projections.   Five programs were delayed for implementation for various reasons. Finally, two certificate programs were terminated by the governing board. Please refer to Attachment A for listing of academic programs in the 2006-07 monitoring cycle by program action.

Attachment A
Post Approval Monitoring: 2006-07 Cycle

Table 1:   Programs - Benchmarks Attained

Austin Peay State University
- Criminal Justice, BS
- Management, MS

East Tennessee State University
- Digital Media, BS
- Geology, BS
- Sport and Leisure Management, BS
- Social Work, MS
- Audiology, AuD
- Pharmacy, PharmD
- Physical Therapy, DPT
- Public Health, DrPH

Middle Tennessee State University
- Art History, BA
- Concrete Industry Management, BS
- Construction Management Technology, BS
- Global Studies, BA
- Professional Science, MS
- Recording Arts and Technology, MFA
- Economics, PhD
- English, PhD
- Human Performance, PhD
- Public History, PhD

Tennessee State University
- Health Sciences, BSHS

Tennessee Technological University
- Web Design, BS
- Computer Science, MS

University of Memphis
- Biomedical Engineering, BSBE
- Hospitality and Resort Management, BBA
- Int'l Masters of Business Admin, IMBA
- Nursing, MSN
- Computer Science, MS and PhD

Regents Campus Collaborative (Regents Online Degrees Programs: RODP)
- Advanced Studies in Teaching and Learning, MED
- Nursing, MSN
- Professional Studies, MPS

University of Tennessee, Chattanooga
- Computational Engineering, PhD
- Physical Therapy, DPT

University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- Public Relations, BSC
- Audiology, AuD
- Industrial and Information Engineering, PhD
- Natural Resources, PhD

University of Tennessee, Martin
- Finance, BSBA

University of Tennessee Memphis Health Science Center
- Health Informatics and Information Management, MS
- Occupational Therapy, MSOT
- Physical Therapy, DPT

Northeast State Technical Community College
- Public Safety and Justice Administration, AAS
- Chemical Process Operations, Technical Certificate

Southwest Tennessee Community College
- Biotechnology, AAS

Table 2: Programs - Benchmarks Not Attained

Austin Peay State University
- Military History, MA

East Tennessee State University
- Geology, BS
- Allied Health, MSAH
- Nursing Science, DSN

Tennessee State University
- Occupational Therapy, MOT

University of Memphis
- Bioinformatics, MS
- Women's Studies, MA

University of Tennessee, Chattanooga
- Electrical Engineering, BS *
- Mechanical Engineering, BS *

University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- Computer Engineering, MS and PhD *

University of Tennessee Memphis Health Science Center
- Physical Therapy, ScDPT

Nashville State Technical Community College
- Biotechnology, AAS
- Surgical Assisting, Technical Certificate
- Entrepreneurship, Technical Certificate

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Program Productivity Plans will be required to indicate strategies and plans for correcting deficiencies related to enrollment and graduation.

Table 3: Programs Delayed Implementation

East Tennessee State University
- Clinical Psychology, PhD
- Environmental Health, PhD

Tennessee State University
- Urban Studies, BS

University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- Reliability and Maintability Engineering, MS

Jackson State Community College
- Occupational Therapy Assistant, AAS

Table 4: Programs Terminated

Nashville State Technical Community College
- Industrial Automation, Technical Certificate
- Web Development, Technical Certificate