

Contact: Diana Gonzalez

**REQUEST TO DISCONTINUE THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE PROGRAM  
IN APPLIED PHYSICS AT IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY**

**Action Requested:** Consider approval of the request by Iowa State University to discontinue the Bachelor of Science program in Applied Physics.

**Executive Summary:** As a result of a post-audit review conducted in 2004, Iowa State University concluded that this was not a viable program. The request to discontinue the program is based on a disproportionate investment in time and energy by the department in relation to the number of majors and graduates during the past five years.

**Details on Request to Discontinue Program:**

- There will be no impact on other programs or on the overall mission of ISU because the program is only five years old and it has had minimal enrollment during that time.
- During the past five years, there have been only four majors in the program rather than the 30 that had been projected when the program was approved.
- There are no resources specifically devoted to this program; therefore, no savings or reallocations, other than eliminating the administrative burden of maintaining a separate degree and advising track, will occur due to the program discontinuance.
- The two students enrolled during the 2004-05 academic year completed their degree in Spring 2005. There are no students currently enrolled in the program; therefore, no students will be affected by the discontinuance.
- This request is consistent with the Board of Regents' strategy (4.1.1) to "pursue opportunities to realize greater efficiency in operations, consistent with best practices in the delivery of education and other services."
- Currently, the University of Northern Iowa and the University of Iowa offer undergraduate programs in applied physics and these should be sufficient to meet the demands in the state.
- This request was reviewed by the Council of Provosts and the Board Office. There are no objections to the program discontinuance.
- ISU's proposal to discontinue the Bachelor of Science Program in Applied Physics is available in the Board Office.