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Closure of the Computational Fluid Dynamics Graduate Certificate Program (SACSCOC Response)

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SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS
COMMISSION ON COLLEGES

February 17, 2014

Dr. Mary Lewnes Albrecht
Associate Vice Chancellor
The University of Tennessee
527 Andy Holt Tower
Knoxville, TN 37996-0152

Dear Dr. Albrecht:

Thank you for your two (2) letters, dated January 31, 2014, regarding The University of Tennessee's intent to terminate the following two (2) programs, effective fall 2014:

- **Graduate Certificate in Computational Fluid Dynamics** (College of Engineering)
 - The Department of Mechanical, Aerospace, and Biomedical Engineering, with which the Certificate program is affiliated, placed the program into dormancy due to (1) the retirement of the one faculty associated with the program and (2) lack of student interest and enrollment in the certificate program
 - No students have been admitted into the program as of spring 2009; there are no currently enrolled students
 - There is no impact to faculty associated with program termination as all required courses in the certificate program remain intact and are offered in other Engineering programs

- **M.S. in Aviation Systems degree program** (College of Engineering)
 - The Department of Mechanical, Aerospace, and Biomedical Engineering reports declining interest and enrollment in this program over the past several years due primarily to the introduction of similar programs by the U.S. Navy and U.S. Air Force. Navy and Air Force personnel had, previously, represented the primary enrollees in this program
 - Fall of 2013, student enrollment statistics indicate the following:
 - 25 "inactive" enrollments (not currently enrolled)
 - Of the 25 inactive enrollments, four (4) have been actively enrolled in courses since 2010
 - Four (4) actively enrolled students
 - No students have been admitted into the program as of fall 2013
 - All students will be contacted by certified mail regarding program termination and advised that Aviation Systems courses will be offered for a total of four (4) additional years (spring 2018)
 - After that time, courses taught in the Flight Test Engineering (M.S. in Engineering Science) degree program may be appropriately substituted
 - There is no impact to faculty associated with program termination



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The Commission approves termination of the Graduate Certificate in Computational Fluid Dynamics and the M.S. in Aviation Systems degree programs and will add this information to the institution's files.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Belle S. Wheelan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Belle S. Wheelan, Ph.D.
President

BSW/TG:efk

cc: Dr. Jimmy G. Cheek, Chancellor
Dr. Steven M. Sheeley