

Carl Sandburg College

Board of Trustees Meeting

Regular Meeting – May 15, 2007

Item 15 Approval of Associate in Applied Science Degree – Renewable Energy Technology

Institutional Focal Points/Goals

I-A, II-C & D, III –A&B, IV-C, V-F

Background

As a silo of opportunity, Carl Sandburg College is positioned to become one of the first community colleges in the state of Illinois to offer an Associate in Applied Science degree in Renewable Energy Technology. National, state and local interest and pursuit of renewable fuels continues to grow at ever-increasing rates. From President Bush's State of the Union address that commented on the importance of renewable fuels to Illinois, state legislation requiring the use of renewable fuels in state vehicles to local renewable production facilities surrounding the College, the evidence supports this educational opportunity. Local interest is expected to be strong in light of employment opportunities for recently displaced workers and spouses and our location in a community rich in corn and soybean products.

Additionally, the College has been participating in a consortium of seven community colleges working in partnership with ICCB and the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to develop a model curriculum in process control technology. Through its involvement in this project, CSC has the potential to become a lead institution delivering instruction in a regional or statewide program. The approval of the proposed AAS Degree program in Renewable Energy Technology will position the College very well to potentially be a lead institution in process technology training, as well as take advantage of DCEO resources for the implementation of the program.

In April, the degree received the support and approval of the Carl Sandburg College Faculty Curriculum Committee, Faculty Council and Faculty Assembly. Per ICCB requirements, prior to release of documents for ICCB consideration, Board of Trustee consideration is required.

Recommended Action

The Administration recommends the Board of Trustees approve the Associate in Applied Science degree in Renewable Energy Technology as attached, for submittal to ICCB for a three year temporary program.