



March 2011

Bachelor of Science Aviation Management and Bachelor of Science Professional Pilot Moderate Degree Change Proposal

Proposed Change Description and Rationale

Central Washington University (CWU) seeks approval to convert four specializations within its B.S. Flight Technology degree into two stand-alone degrees, each with two specializations. This would effectively split the B.S. Flight Technology into two new degrees beginning fall 2011:

- The B.S. Aviation Management degree, with Aviation Management and Aviation Maintenance Management specializations; and
- The B.S. Professional Pilot degree, with Flight Officer and Commercial Pilot specializations.

The two degrees would accommodate 32 and 59 FTE students respectively. Curriculum and learning objectives would change moderately, but target audience, admission requirements, delivery method, faculty, and facilities would remain the same.

The conversion would respond to national trends and norms in the field and align the degrees and specializations with CWU's curricular policies. It would also enable CWU to seek Aviation Accreditation Board International (AABI) accreditation for the Flight Officer specialization.

Staff Analysis and Recommendation

The proposed conversion is supported by three external reviewers and meets HECB moderate degree change criteria. The new degree titles would benefit students and employers by clearly communicating academic focus and benefit the community by enhancing CWU's ability to recruit high-caliber students. The proposed changes also would enable CWU to pursue AABI accreditation. Accreditation would enhance program quality and would enable Flight Officer students to more easily meet pending federal pilot qualification requirements.

After careful review of the proposal and supporting materials, staff recommends approval of the Bachelor of Science Aviation Management and Bachelor of Science Professional Pilot degrees at Central Washington University. The HECB's Education Committee discussed the proposal during its March 8, 2011 meeting and recommended approval by the full Board.



STATE OF WASHINGTON
HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD

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RESOLUTION NO. 11-04

WHEREAS, Central Washington University proposes to offer Bachelor of Science Aviation Management and Bachelor of Science Professional Pilot degrees; and

WHEREAS, The degrees would result from the conversion of Bachelor of Science Flight Technology options into Bachelor of Science Aviation Management and Bachelor of Science Professional Pilot degrees, each with two options; and

WHEREAS, The conversion would benefit students and employers by clearly indicating academic focus; and

WHEREAS, The conversion would benefit the community by enhancing Central Washington University's ability to recruit high-caliber students; and

WHEREAS, The conversion is a moderate degree change; and

WHEREAS, The degree programs would be offered at Ellensburg and Moses Lake;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Bachelor of Science Aviation Management and Bachelor of Science Professional Pilot degrees, effective March 31, 2011.

Adopted:

March 31, 2011

Attest:


Ethelda Burke, Chair


Earl Hale, Vice Chair

