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07-029

ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY: AAS DEGREE BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY FOR PORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND COLUMBIA GORGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY: Jeff Triplett, Division Dean, Math and Industrial Technology

APPROVED BY: Dr. Preston Pulliams, District President
Dr. Christine Chairsell, Vice President Academic and Student Affairs

REPORT: This degree option will provide students with the opportunity to pursue a degree specialization in Biomedical Engineering Technology. The proposed biomedical degree will allow PCC to tap into job segments which overlap with electronics skills taught in the current degree giving the students the flexibility to choose Electronic Engineering Technology, Biomedical Engineering Technology or both. Students who successfully complete the program may work as entry level biomedical equipment technicians who operate and maintain medical laboratory and radiologic equipment. If approved the Biomedical degree option will be the first of its kind in the State of Oregon in a field that is expanding at a rapid pace. It is anticipated that the employment opportunities will likely exist in the Portland-Metro area, and will help offset the loss of employment opportunities due to the globalization process. The target student population includes former graduates of the PCC Electronic Engineering Technology program, those seeking a career change, first-time students and employees in the current workforce. Hospitals and medical facilities in the Portland area have made a commitment to provide internship opportunities for PCC students.

RECOMMENDATION: That the college be authorized to submit an application to the State Board of Education to add an AAS degree option in Biomedical Engineering Technology to the existing Electronic Engineering Technology program for Portland Community College and Columbia Gorge Community College.