



Date of Board Meeting: March 29, 2022

SUBJECT: Deactivate Associate of Applied Science (AAS) Degrees and Certificates

RECOMMENDATION: Approve two (2) AAS Degree and Certificate Deactivations, effective Fall 2022

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE: Effective fall 2022, the request is to deactivate the following programs:

- 1) Associate of Applied Science (AAS) in Computer Simulation & Game Development
- 2) Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree in Digital Media
- 3) Level I Certificate in Digital Media
- 4) Level II Certificate in Game Development

These four programs will be deactivated due to low enrollment, low graduation rates, and lack of available jobs in the region. In the past five years, the AAS in Computer Simulation and Game Development has had 20 graduates, and the Digital Media AAS has had 14 graduates – both of which fall below the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) threshold for Low-Producing Programs of 25 graduates over a 5-year period.

In regard to enrollment, based on the Fall 2021 semester, deactivating these four programs may result in a potential decrease in Fall 2022 enrollment by 20-35 students. However, these potential students will be advised to enroll in other relevant degrees/programs. Also, it should be noted that the full-time faculty who teach in these programs have (this past fall) resigned from the college creating several vacancies, which would need to be filled if these programs were not deactivated.

In the future, if there is demand in these fields by regional employers – as indicated by job vacancies and data analysis, WCJC may apply to reactive these programs. Meanwhile, a teach-out plan has been developed for current students enrolled in these programs, or students will have the option to transition to other degrees.

Estimated Cost and Budgetary Support (how will this be paid for?): NA

RESOURCE PERSON(S) [name(s) and title(s)]: David Kucera, Division Chair of Technology & Business

SIGNATURES:



Originator

Leigh Ann Collins

Digitally signed by Leigh Ann Collins
Date: 2022.03.21 10:22:27 -05'0

3-8-2022

Cabinet-Level Supervisor

Date _____

PRESIDENT'S APPROVAL:

Betty A. Malachuk

3-22-22