

**Utah Valley University**  
Curriculum Items  
Board of Trustees  
August 22, 2013

**Proposal:**

It is proposed that the **AAS Mechatronics Technology** degree be restructured; that UVU add the following new education endorsements: **Dual Language Immersion, Educational Technology, Gifted and Talented, Reading I, English as a Second Language, and Elementary Mathematics**; also that the name of the Bachelor of Music in Media Composition and Production be changed to **Bachelor of Music in Commercial Music**.

**Background:**

**1) Degree Restructure**

The restructure of the **AAS Mechatronics Technology Program** will align the Mechatronics Technology content with the needs of industry so that the graduates of the program will realize strong employment potential as well as immediate productivity as automation technicians. The purpose of the Mechatronics Technology Program is to prepare students to work in the local manufacturing sector as automation technologists. These changes are in response to feedback from former students as well as potential employers. The changes in the program have been made to reflect the job requirements associated with an AAS level graduate and bring the curriculum more in line with the needs of industry. The previous curriculum was an applied programming curriculum with some mechanical design and electronics courses added to balance out the philosophy of Mechatronics. These changes reflect the need of industry for Mechatronics Technicians to develop and maintain automation systems.

**2) Endorsements for Education degrees**

The **Dual Language Immersion Endorsement** is designed to prepare teachers to be sensitive and responsive to the needs of dual language immersion (DLI) learners and to become advocates for DLI in a variety of educational settings. Coursework is designed to address historical and political foundations of DLI education and methods and materials for engaging DLI students in challenging educational experiences. Local school districts have currently initiated dual language immersion programs in approximately 25 schools in the UVU service area. These teachers do not currently have the endorsement to their teaching certificate that will be required beginning in Fall 2013. Similar programs are under development at other state institutions, but UVU will be the only public institution offering these endorsement classes in Utah County.

The **Educational Technology Endorsement** is designed to prepare teachers to be sensitive and responsive to the changes in educational technology, and to become advocates for the incorporation of technology in a variety of educational settings. Coursework is designed to address the history of technology resources in education, and the methods and materials for engaging students in challenging educational experiences using educational technology. Local school districts are striving to incorporate the use of educational technology with instruction in many schools. Teachers in these districts who are responsible for overseeing technology resources, providing staff development, teaching K-12 students in the use of the

tools of technology, and/or serving as school advisors for the use of technology in the classroom are required to have an endorsement to their teaching license for educational technology. Similar programs are available at other state institutions, and some courses are available online from the Utah Education Network, but UVU is the only institution offering these face-to face endorsement classes in Utah County.

The **Gifted and Talented Endorsement** is designed to prepare teachers to be sensitive and responsive to the needs of Gifted and Talented (GT) learners and to become advocates for GT in a variety of educational settings. Coursework is designed to address historical and political foundations of GT education and methods and materials for engaging GT students in challenging educational experiences. Local school districts have Gifted and Talented programs in place at many school sites, and are requesting that UVU help provide the coursework these teachers need to gain the specialized knowledge for teaching in these programs. These districts are interested in offering these courses at district sites, using UVU adjunct instructors who are qualified and experienced to teach in this area. Similar endorsement programs are in place at other state institutions, but UVU will be the only public institution offering these face-to face endorsement classes in Utah County.

The **Reading I Endorsement** is designed to prepare teachers to be responsive to current scientific-reading research for teaching reading and to become advocates for reading research in the educational setting. Coursework is designed to address historical and political foundations of reading education and methods and materials for engaging students in challenging educational experiences. The Reading 1 Endorsement signifies that teachers have completed a course of study that has provided them extended, specialized knowledge of instructional tools and strategies for effective reading instruction, along with increased understanding of the current body of research on literacy teaching and learning. This endorsement is required for those teachers who are functioning as literacy or reading specialists in K-12 schools. Similar programs are available at other state institutions, but UVU would be the only public institution offering these face-to face endorsement classes in Utah County. Students completing the coursework for this endorsement could also receive partial credit toward a Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction at UVU.

The **English as a Second Language Endorsement** is designed to prepare teachers to be sensitive and responsive to the needs of English Language Learners (ELL). Coursework is designed to address historical and political influences in ESL education and methods and materials for engaging ELLs in challenging educational experiences. In response to Utah's changing demographics, teachers in local school districts need additional training in teaching students who speak English as a second language. Federal guidelines for districts receiving Title I funds ask that teachers at Title I schools have an endorsement to their teaching license for teaching ELL students. UVU's courses have been designed to meet the needs of practicing teachers and are available at UVU and at selected school district sites. Similar programs are in place at other state institutions, but UVU is the only public institution in Utah County where these classes are available.

The **Elementary Mathematics Endorsement** is designed to prepare teachers to be more accomplished in mathematical content knowledge. Coursework is designed to increase the content knowledge in mathematics for elementary teachers and to introduce research-based methods and materials for engaging elementary students in mathematical learning. Increased demands from state and federal policy makers for expanding the teaching of mathematics in elementary classrooms call for a corresponding increase in opportunities for teacher education. UVU's courses have been designed to meet the needs of practicing

teachers who want to increase their professional knowledge of mathematics and obtain an elementary math endorsement on their teaching license. They are available at UVU and at selected school district sites. Similar programs are offered at other state institutions, but UVU is the only public institution in Utah County with these classes available.

### **3) Degree Name Change.**

The Utah State Board of Regents approved the UVU Department of Music's proposal for the "Bachelor of Music in Media Composition and Production" on January 25, 2013, and this degree is scheduled to be available as a declared major beginning Fall 2013. A **name change to Bachelor of Music in Commercial Music** was suggested by The National Association of Schools of Music (NASM), which is currently reviewing the UVU Department of Music and its programs for national accreditation. NASM has approved the current curricular content of this degree. However, after extensive review and discussions, including a conference call with NASM accreditation advisor Mark Marion held July 15, 2013, NASM strongly recommends that UVU change the title of the "Bachelor of Music in Media Composition and Production" to "Bachelor of Music in Commercial Music." According to the NASM Commission Action Report dated July 3, 2013, the current title of this degree implies a double major, one in Media Composition and second in Production, when in fact "Media Composition" and "Music Technology and Production" are alternative tracks contained within the degree. NASM's recommendation of the title "Commercial Music" is a reflection of its efforts to standardize this degree name for the growing number of music degree programs that prepare students for professions in the music media industry. NASM recommends that UVU adopt the emerging standard title of "Commercial Music" and highlight the strengths and goals of the institution through its descriptions of the current curricular content of the degree, rather than through the title.

### **Recommendation:**

The President and the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs recommend that the Board of Trustees approve the proposed actions as summarized above and detailed in the attached documents.