ACADEMIC COUNCIL REPORT

SESSION:		**ACTION REQUESTED:**	
Public	☒	**Decision**	☒
		Discussion/Direction	☐
		Information	☐

TO: **Academic Council**

DATE: **26 November 2019**

PRESENTED BY: **Lori Livingston, Provost and Vice President, Academic**

SUBJECT: **Formal Closure of the Bachelor of Applied Science – Nuclear Power Bridge Program and Bachelor of Applied Science – Nuclear Power Program**

MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION:

- That pursuant to the recommendation of the Provost, Academic Council hereby approves the closure of the Bachelor of Applied Science – Nuclear Power Bridge Program and Bachelor of Applied Science – Nuclear Power Program, effective immediately.

MANDATE:

- In accordance with LGC 1127, August 2005, “if, in the event of academic weakness, declining enrolment, financial exigency, or other circumstances, the Provost believes that it may be necessary to close or substantially reconfigure a Degree Program, he/she shall inform the Academic Council in a timely way of his/her concerns.” and “shall present a recommendation to the Academic Council to close or reconfigure the Program”.

BACKGROUND/CONTEXT & RATIONALE:

- The Nuclear Power programs were created to fill a need for the majority of nuclear power plant positions that do not require a dedicated engineering degree but do require a solid foundation in science and basic engineering knowledge
- Enrolment in the program was very low, and students have not been admitted to the 4-year Nuclear Power program since the Fall term of 2004 and to the Nuclear Power Bridge program since the Spring/Summer term of 2013
- All students who began this program have completed the program
- The program was scheduled to undergo a program review in 2017, however due to no enrolment the program was not reviewed

RESOURCES REQUIRED AND IMPLICATIONS:

- There are no resources required to close these programs
- There are no direct Faculty implications. All faculty members have been teaching full course loads in the Faculty of Energy Systems and Nuclear Science's other undergraduate and graduate programs while this program has been inactive
- There are no impacts to non-academic human resources, as the program has not been active
- Five inactive courses, specific to the programs, will be closed
- There are no active or non-active students, nor are there any prospective students for these programs and there are no implications on enrolment in these or other programs
- It is expected that there will be positive impacts on the Faculty and the University with the clarity provided by the closure of these programs and existing resources may be directed to new and currently active programs
- There are no impacts on external agencies

CONSULTATION:

- In accordance with the currently active Policy (LCG 1127) governing the closure of a program, the following consultation and approval path is required:
    - After notification of the need to close a program, the Dean of the Faculty in which the program resides will seek the advice of the Faculty Council
    - Whether or not agreement is reached with the Dean and Faculty Council, the Provost shall present a recommendation to the Academic Council
- Program closure was presented to FESNS Faculty Council in May 2019

COMPLIANCE WITH POLICY/LEGISLATION:

- The current Institutional Quality Assurance Process (IQAP, June 2011) requires programs to be reviewed every eight years, in accordance with the Ontario Universities Council on Quality Assurance Quality Assurance Framework
- LGC 1127 requires the Provost to make recommendations for program closure in cases of "declining enrolment, financial exigency, or other circumstances"

TRANSITION AND NEXT STEPS:

- Students have not been admitted to the 4-year Nuclear Power program since the Fall 2004 term (and Spring 2013 for the Nuclear Power bridge program), and all students have completed the programs
- The programs will be closed/removed from any print or electronic publications immediately
- All student communications and transitioning have been completed. All students that began these programs have completed the degree. There is no opportunity for any student to apply for readmission. The last full cohort of students graduated in 2015, and one student graduated in 2019.

SUPPORTING REFERENCE MATERIALS:

- Major Program Modification – Removal of Program or Program Component Proposal Brief

Major Program Modification – Removal of Program or Program Component

Faculty of Energy Systems and Nuclear Science

Bachelor of Applied Science – Nuclear Power
Bachelor of Applied Science – Nuclear Power Bridge

1. INTRODUCTION

a. Brief background on the existing program

Nuclear power plants require a large number of employees with different skills to operate and maintain them. The majority of these positions do not require a dedicated engineering degree but do require a solid foundation of science and basic engineering knowledge. These positions include control room activities, work order placements, procurement, maintenance, support to engineers and field work. This program was created to fill that need.

However, enrolment has not been strong. Students have not been admitted to the 4-year Nuclear Power program since the Fall term of 2004 and to the Nuclear Power Bridge program since the Spring/Summer term of 2013. Each program had consistently low enrolment numbers. There are no students who began this program that have not completed the program. The program was scheduled to undergo a program review in 2017, however due to no enrolment the program was not reviewed. Therefore, it is recommended for closure.

b. Rationale for the removal of the program or program component

Students have not been admitted to the 4-year Nuclear Power program since the Fall term of 2004 and to the Nuclear Power Bridge program since the Spring/Summer term of 2013, each program had consistently low enrolment numbers. There are no students who began this program that have not completed the program. The program was scheduled to undergo a program review in 2017, however due to no enrolment the program was not reviewed.

2. IMPLICATIONS

a. Faculty members

No direct implications. All Faculty members have been able to teach full course loads in the Faculty of Energy Systems and Nuclear Science's other undergraduate and graduate programs.

b. Non-academic human resources

No impact, as the program has not been active.

c. Courses

Courses that are affected, with date of last offering and last enrolment:

- NUCL 4360U – Nuclear Plant Electric & Auxiliary Systems (last offering: Fall 2013 – 5)
- NUCL 4620U – Radioactive Waste Management (last offering: Fall 2015 – 48)
- NUCL 4400U – Nuclear Plant Control Systems (last offering: Winter 2015 – 1)
- NUCL 4540U – Nuclear Steam Supply Systems (last offering: Fall 2015 – 5)
- NUCL 4545U – Nuclear Plant Steam Utilization Systems (last offering: Winter 2015 – 4)

These courses will be formally closed.

d. Students (*current and prospective)*

There are no active or non-active students, nor are there any prospective students for these programs.

e. Enrolments *(anticipated impacts on other programs, if applicable)*

No direct implications on enrolment. If any impact, there may be positive impacts in that more resources can be directed to new and existing active programs.

f. External agencies *(if applicable)*

No direct implications.

3. TIMELINES

a. Proposed Date of Program or Program Component Removal/Close

Students have not been admitted to the 4-year Nuclear Power program since the Fall 2004 term (and Spring 2013 for the Nuclear Power bridge program), and all students have completed the programs. The programs will be closed/removed immediately.

b. Proposed Plan of Actions

Students have not been admitted to the 4-year Nuclear Power program since the Fall 2004 term (and Spring 2013 for the Nuclear Power bridge program), so all major communication and transitioning has already been completed. All students that began these programs have completed the degree; there is no opportunity for any student to apply for readmission. The last major group of students graduated in 2015, and one student graduated in 2019.