

Executive Summary:

SPSU received three educational grants from the US NRC as part of its Nuclear Education Grant Program formed in 2007, to develop four courses on Nuclear Power Generation. Two of the courses are on nuclear Quality Assurance / Quality Control and Nuclear Construction and Preoperational Startup Testing. Because of the need for these courses by the nuclear industry and demand by industry members, SPSU has committed to concentrations in Nuclear Power Generation in its Systems Engineering and Engineering Technology programs. Dr. Russ Hunt, Dean of the SPSU Extended University and Director of the Southern Polytechnic Applied Research Center, (rhunt@SPSU.edu) will be responsible for the implementation of this project. Mr. Tony Sideris, PE and SPSU Program Manager for Nuclear Power Generation Engineering, with more than forty years of nuclear industry experience, will be responsible as the industry expert (tsideris@spsu.edu), and Ms. Betsy Adams, Director, of the Office of Sponsored Programs, will be responsible for the contractual administration of this project (badams@spsu.edu).

The reality is that training in these curricula is only available to nuclear industry employees, and only in very limited fashion to the public. That is why SPSU's foremost objective for this program was to bring this training into the public educational environment and thus help the industry's workforce development needs which are expected to greatly expand soon.

At the same time SPSU is establishing a formal NPG faculty group within the Systems Engineering and Engineering Technology degree programs, consisting of both industry and faculty representatives that will oversee the further program development and course application.

The purpose of this proposal is to secure NRC funding that will entice and enable SPSU students from various engineering and technical disciplines to have a concentration in nuclear power generation and thus prepare for careers in the nuclear power industry. We are planning to offer 20 Scholarships, student workshops and the opportunity for twelve of the scholarship recipients to participate in paid summer research activities SPSU is well positioned to offer this NPGE program because of its highly ranked QA Engineering, and Construction Engineering, Construction Management, Engineering technology and Systems Engineering programs, and its geographic location is close to many of the existing and future plant sites and to NRC Region II, the planned locus of regulatory oversight for nuclear plant construction and startup activities