AACR 4

Office of the President
October 29, 2002

Members, Board of Trustees:

MASTER OF SCIENCE: PROFESSIONAL MASTER OF
BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees approve the establishment of a Master of Science: Professional Master of Biomedical Engineering degree program in the Center for Biomedical Engineering.

Background: The Master of Science: Professional Master of Biomedical Engineering program will prepare students for careers as leaders in traditional medical device or pharmaceutical manufacturing settings. Careers also await graduates in venture capital and industry analyst professions. The program will attempt to instill an entrepreneurial spirit in its graduates, encouraging them to start companies to commercialize emerging biomedical technologies.

There exists a clear need for the nation's leading academic institutions to educate their students in technological leadership skills in biomedical engineering. Modern society has become increasingly dependent upon technological solutions to complex problems, especially those pertaining to healthcare. This program will help fill that need by training individuals with the capabilities to direct the development and implementation of biomedical technologies. This program will be evaluated, in part, by tracking the value of the program to industry, the placement success of graduates, and the number of start-up commercial enterprises in Kentucky that may be attributed to the program.

This program seeks to help catapult the University of Kentucky into the emerging trend of graduate biomedical engineering education, compete for the nation's best students, and shape them into the technological leaders of tomorrow, while simultaneously helping to create new technologies and bring new biomedical technology-based business to Kentucky.

This program has the approval of the Graduate Council and Senate Council, and has completed the forty-five day review by the Council on Postsecondary Education. The Acting Provost of the University supports this recommendation.

Action taken: ☑ Approved   ❑ Disapproved   ❑ Other _____