

**Program Planning Summary  
The Citadel**

**Master of Science in Program Management (MSPgM)**

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**New Program Proposal  
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**1) New Program Proposal: Master of Science in Program Management (MSPgM)**

Approval is requested for a new program – a Master of Science in Program Management (MSPgM) at The Citadel. This program will provide an advanced degree related to the management and leadership of technical projects, while allowing for specialty courses in areas pertinent to individual students. We foresee this program filling a real need in the Lowcountry. Also, it will be in keeping with The Citadel's mission to produce principled leaders.

**2) Proposed Date of Implementation: Fall 2009**

**3) Number of Credit Hours: 30**

**4) The Proposal**

The Citadel proposes a new and unique program leading to the Master of Science degree in Program Management, to be implemented in Fall 2009. Classes will be offered at the Lowcountry Graduate Center with select courses provided on The Citadel campus. This program is designed to encompass the management knowledge and performance competencies which can be used by all disciplines involved in managing technical projects. The program of instruction will require 30 credit hours for graduation and may be completed within two calendar years. The proposed MSPgM program builds upon the four graduate courses (12 credit hours) in Technical Project Management (TPM) currently offered by The Citadel School of Engineering by adding Leadership, statistical analysis, and advanced specialty area courses.

**5) Justification of Need**

Currently, there are no classroom-based master degree programs available in the Lowcountry for professionals seeking to advance their careers in technical management. This shortfall is particularly acute for those who manage technical projects or who manage two or more related projects, commonly known as programs.

Additionally there is a rapidly growing need for professionals in the Charleston area to have project and program management skills that are well grounded in formal technical leadership education and development. On June 19, 2008, sixty (60) members of the Charleston Chapter of Project Management Institute, reflecting a broad cross-section of Lowcountry employers, participated in a workshop to identify and recommend the content of the proposed program. On September 26, 2008, twenty-one (21) representatives from the Charleston Air Force Base, the United States Navy Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command (SPAWAR), South Carolina Research Authority, Eagan McAllister Associates, Boeing Aircraft Company, Vought Aircraft Industries Inc., Global Aeronautica, ADC Engineering, Lockheed Martin, Booz Allen Hamilton, Medical University of South Carolina, and several other large employers in the region participated

with The Citadel School of Engineering in an Advisory Group Meeting to provide input into the MSPgM course development. Both of these efforts found enthusiastic support for the proposed program because it will address diverse business needs and organizational challenges.

Additionally, there are dozens of smaller technical and engineering companies who have individually expressed interest in supporting this initiative. To date, interest from employers and potential students has been evidenced in the increased enrollment in the 4 graduate courses (12 graduate credit hours) in TPM currently offered by the Department of Civil Engineering and inquiries into a formal master program.

This program, as proposed, is designed to respond to the master-level education needs for a variety of disciplines involved in technical program management within the Lowcountry. These disciplines include, but are not limited to, software, information technology, construction, engineering, aviation, logistics and military weapons and combat support systems.

#### **6) Program Demand and Productivity**

The MSPgM degree program is designed to address the need for advanced professional and career development educational opportunities within the Lowcountry. The trend in industry is toward educational programs that provide relevant and advanced instruction, while providing opportunities to pursue education in a selected specialty area. Establishing the MSPgM program will provide educational opportunities for preeminent managers and junior executives in the Lowcountry.

Evidence of the demand for the proposed program can also be seen in the increased enrollment of the 4 graduate courses (12 credit hours) in Technical Project Management (TPM) offered by The Citadel School of Engineering. The TPM program began in Fall 2005 with seven (7) students and enrollment grew steadily to an enrollment of fifteen (15) students in Fall 2007. This increase in enrollment occurred while the TPM program started a new cohort every two years. Increasing demand has prompted The Citadel School of Engineering to hire an adjunct faculty member in order to generate TPM program cohorts on an annual basis to address the professional and career development needs of Lowcountry constituents.

The MSPgM degree program will be offered to and open to graduate students accepted in The Citadel Graduate College.

The proposed MSPgM program will be fully operational in Fall 2009 with an initial cohort of 8 to 12 students per class the first year. As constituent individuals and employers recognize the MSPgM program and include it in their professional and career development programs, the expected number of graduates is expected to increase to 20 students per class.

### **7) Duplication**

We are not aware of any existing program in the State of South Carolina leading to a Master Degree in Project Management or Program Management. Other educational institutions offer individual courses in management or leadership, but none offer an entire program of study in the management and leadership of technical projects for students with both technical and non-technical backgrounds.

### **8) Relationship of the Program to Existing Programs at The Citadel**

The proposed MSPgM program will augment and strengthen the existing MBA and Master of Science in Computer Science (MSCS) programs at The Citadel. Currently the MBA program accepts two of the TPM courses for its six transfer credits. The MSCS program accepts all of the TPM courses into its program. We envision that six (6) credit hours from the MBA or MSCS program will be accepted for transfer credit into the MSPgM program.

### **9) Inter-Institutional Collaborations**

The Master of Science in Computer Science (MSCS) is a joint program between The Citadel and the College of Charleston. The current TPM courses are co-listed in the College of Charleston catalog. It is envisioned that the MSPgM program may incorporate faculty from The College of Charleston and the Medical University of South Carolina to teach courses in selected topic areas. This unique program will be broad based and will marshal the best educational talent available within the State colleges in the Lowcountry.

### **10) Total New Cost**

The MSPgM degree program in general will be implemented with utilization of existing resources and faculty. There will be no need for construction of new facilities, or purchase of specialized equipment. A \$14,300 grant made available through the Lowcountry Graduate Center was awarded in May 2008 to support activities that include 1) hiring an adjunct faculty for the next academic year for the purpose of teaching TPM courses and 2) to develop leadership course content.

A full-time faculty position will be needed to fully implement the program at an estimated salary of \$80,000. This full-time faculty position may also be utilized in the School of Engineering in support of the Civil and Environmental Engineering program, which is experiencing significantly increased enrollment.

### **11) College Support**

This proposal was presented to and approved by The Provost at the Citadel, and the Director of the Lowcountry Graduate Center. The proposal was refined and approved again by those parties and The Citadel President. The program is seen as filling a real need in the Lowcountry area, and is in keeping with the Citadel mission to produce principled leaders.

**12) Recommendation**

We recommend that the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing commend favorably to the Commission The Citadel's proposed program leading to the Master of Science in Program Management.