

NTID to implement Middle States recommendation

April 3, 1997

NTID is in the process of identifying new opportunities in engineering-related technologies fields, with the goal of offering at least one new degree program in fall of 1998.

Last year, NTID's Middle States Academic Program Review Committee recommended discontinuing NTID's programs in architectural drafting, architectural technology, civil technology, electromechanical technology and industrial drafting. Recently, President Simone and Provost Stanley McKenzie approved discontinuing these programs. This approval followed extensive discussion and review by college faculty, administrators and the curriculum committee.

In explaining the underlying rationale for this action, James DeCaro, dean of NTID, pointed out, "These program discontinuance actions are a result of declining student enrollment and increasing program costs. They are not a reflection of the quality of the programs, faculty or integrity of efforts to respond to the challenges outlined in NTID's strategic plan."

A transition plan has been developed and current students have been informed that they will be able to complete their degree in their current program. Required courses will be offered over the next few years to ensure no interruption in study.

New students will be able to enter the construction technologies (civil technology, architectural drafting and architectural technology) programs Fall Quarter 1997 if they are fully qualified. After Fall Quarter, the programs will not be accepting first-year students. NTID will continue to work with the other RIT colleges to provide opportunities for deaf students who are interested in engineering and engineering-related technologies not offered at NTID.

New students will be able to enter the industrial technologies (electromechanical technology and industrial drafting) programs Fall Quarter 1997 if they are fully qualified. Students who need additional preparation will have the opportunity to improve their skills before entering either of these programs. Until new programs being developed are approved and implemented, students will continue to be accepted into Industrial Technologies programs.