Agenda Item No.

**AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING**

**Submitted by:** Marc A. Nigliazzo**,** Ph.D., President

Texas A&M University-Central Texas

**Subject:** Approval of a New Bachelor of Science Degree Program With a Major in Mechanical Engineering Technology Degree Program, and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

**Proposed Board Action:**

Approve the establishment of a new degree program at Texas A&M University-Central Texas (A&M-Central Texas) leading to a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Mechanical Engineering Technology,authorize the submission of this degree program to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) for approval, and certify that all applicable THECB criteria have been met.

**Background Information:**

A&M-Central Texas is seeking approval to offer a B.S. degree in Mechanical Engineering Technology. The proposed program is designed to prepare graduates for the application and implementation of mechanical engineering principles to mechanical systems. Though it is closely related to mechanical engineering, it is distinct in that the proposed curriculum focuses on hands-on learning and application in both laboratory and real-world settings rather than theory and conceptual designs.

The proposed program is a highly complementary addition to the Department of Sciences and Mathematics. The department already has a growing engineering research program in solar energy and one engineering faculty member on staff. In addition, the program will increase the College of Arts and Sciences’ ability to conduct high-quality research and develop our students professionally.

**A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:**

Institutional funds will be used to support the B.S. in Mechanical Engineering Technology. One new full-time faculty member will be added by the second year and another within the third year of the program. The new costs for the first five years will not exceed $2 million.

**Strategic Plan Imperative(s) This Item Advances:**

The proposed B.S. in Mechanical Engineering Technology aligns with The Texas A&M University System strategic plan imperative 3 by preparing students for long term careers in a fast-growing field.

## Agenda Item No.

**TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CENTRAL TEXAS**

Office of the President

May 30, 2018

# Members, Board of Regents

The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval of a New Bachelor of Science Degree Program With a Major in Mechanical Engineering Technology, and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

**“The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System approves the establishment of a new degree program at Texas A&M University-Central Texas leading to a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering Technology.**

The Board also authorizes submission of Texas A&M University-Central Texas’s new degree program request to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for approval and hereby certifies that all applicable criteria of the Coordinating Board have been met.”

Respectfully submitted,

Marc A. Nigliazzo, Ph.D.

President

**Approval Recommended: Approved for Legal Sufficiency:**

John Sharp Ray Bonilla

Chancellor General Counsel

Billy Hamilton

Deputy Chancellor and

Chief Financial Officer

James R. Hallmark, Ph.D.

Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs