

## **Undergraduate Nuclear Power Generation Scholarships at Southern Polytechnic State University**

### **Executive Summary:**

SPSU has received several educational grants from the US NRC as part of its Nuclear Education Grant Program formed in 2007, to develop courses on Nuclear Power Generation. Two of the courses are on nuclear Quality Assurance / Quality Control and Nuclear Construction and Preoperational Startup Testing and another course currently in development entitled "New generation Nuclear Power Plant Cranes & Heavy Lifts". 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. 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 has established 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 continue the NRC funding that enables 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 increase the number of scholarships, provide student travel to regional conferences, and provide the students the opportunity to attend NPG workshops. SPSU is well positioned to offer this Nuclear Power Generation 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.

**Principal Investigator:** Ruston Hunt, [rhunt@spsu.edu](mailto:rhunt@spsu.edu)