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November 29, 2017

Dr. James D. Fielder, Jr.  
Secretary  
Maryland Higher Education Commission  
6 N. Liberty Street, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Baltimore, MD 21201

Dear Dr. Fielder,

I am writing concerning the proposal submitted by the Florida Institute of Technology (FIT) to offer a Master of Science in Engineering Management program at the Southern Maryland Higher Education Center.

UMBC agrees with FIT's statement that "*Department of Defense (DoD) Acquisition Programs in the Washington DC Region could benefit from employees with education and training in Engineering Management.*" UMBC offers a Master of Science in Engineering Management program and courses at its campus to benefit employers in the Washington DC region, as well as the Baltimore region. FIT's statement "*FIT expects at least 10 Washington DC Region personnel to enroll in the FIT programs per year.*" represents an intention on FIT's part to directly compete with UMBC by offering the same program to the same prospective students in the Washington DC region. UMBC therefore is filing an objection to FIT's proposed offering of a Master of Science in Engineering Management on the grounds that it represents an unreasonable program duplication which would cause demonstrable harm to UMBC.

Thank you for the opportunity to express UMBC's objection to the program proposed by the Florida Institute of Technology.

Sincerely,



Antonio Moreira, Ph.D.  
Vice Provost for Academic Affairs

Cc: Dr. Philip Rous, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs