ACADEMIC PROGRAM INNOVATION

Start: August 2026	Budget: $0
Finish: July 2027	Actual YTD: $0

Aviation	Will enroll up to 100 students by Year 5 and has great potential to recruit out of state. Will be a signature program: WU is the only SC university close to a major city, airport, and airline hub!
BSBA In CBE	A CBE implementation of the Bachelor of Science in Business Administration should be a highly desirable online degree program for the 500,000+ working adults in SC.
Adv. Manu. Engineering	Engineering is the #2 top area of study for SC students. No four-year engineering in our region; aid economic development. No "Advanced Manufacturing Engineering" in SC. WU is uniquely positioned to offer this due to existing AI, cyber, etc., degrees.

RISK/MITIGATION

Aviation is only waiting on the FAA to approve the Part 141 credential; we are in regular communication with the FAA but ultimately are in a holding pattern. Any disruption in our CBE BSBA recruiting efforts could slow Spring 2027 enrollment; the dean and VPs are monitoring this closely and proactively visiting companies. There are numerous steps involved in engineering, the Provost is working directly with the chair, dean, and faculty on every aspect of the project to mitigate risk.

Q1 HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ Met with ACES to discuss Winthrop branding on aircraft. Program has moved up to 16th in the FAA approval queue.
- ✓ CHE approved the CBE BSBA.
- ✓ Launched 19 advanced manufacturing engineering Coursedog proposals in the system and gained faculty approvals through Academic Council.
- ✓ Secured five support letters for engineering and secured $500,000 in pledges of financial support for engineering.

Q2 OBJECTIVES

- Finalize Winthrop branding of ACES aircraft. Move to front of FAA queue for Part 141 approval.
- Secure final faculty/BOT approvals for advanced manufacturing engineering and submit proposals to CHE and SACSCOC.
- Finalize timeline/details on engineering space renovation. Launch search for first engineering faculty.
- Recruit first cohort of CBE BSBA students.

Status:
Lead: Sebastian van Delden
Pillars: Educate
Date: 10/06/2026

DESCRIPTION

This year, three strategic curricular initiatives will be tracked: Bachelor of Science degree programs in Advanced Manufacturing Engineering, Aviation and Business Management, and Business Administration in the CBE modality.



FY26-27 (Year 3)