

Electrical engineering program at Mississippi College earns accreditation

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Mississippi College's electrical engineering program reached a significant milestone by becoming accredited.

Based in Baltimore, Maryland, ABET is a nonprofit organization accrediting 4,005 programs at more than 793 colleges and universities in thirty-two countries. MC electrical engineering recently earned the ABET seal of approval.

MC launched its electrical engineering program five years ago and now enrolls about three dozen students.

Getting the ABET seal of approval represents a major achievement, the culmination of much hard work on the Clinton campus.

ABET accreditation "demonstrates that a program meets standards of quality, which makes its graduates more attractive to employers," says Chris Maggio, chair of MC's Department of Engineering, Computer Science and Physics.

"Graduating from an ABET accredited program is also often a requirement for professional engineering licensure," Maggio added.

Electrical engineering professors worked with university leaders, a knowledgeable team of advisors and a determined group of students to make it happen.

Originally the Accreditation Board of Engineering and Technology, the group is simply known as ABET. It remains the global accreditor of university programs in applied and natural science,



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Mississippi College President Blake Thompson joins students and professor Chris Maggio excited about Mississippi College's electrical engineering program gaining ABET accreditation.

computing, engineering along with engineering technology.

Getting ABET accreditation isn't easy.

"Programs seeking accreditation must demonstrate that they are in compliance with ABET's criteria, policies and procedures," Maggio said. He views accreditation as a terrific way to boost student and faculty recruitment

at the Baptist-affiliated university.

MC's electrical engineering classes in Hederman Science Hall include theory, logic design, electronics, microprocessors, signals and systems, along with energy and power.

Students in the program come from Mississippi, across the South, and states as far away as Colorado, Pennsylvania and Hawaii. There's one inter-

national student enrolled from Egypt. A number of the undergrads compete on Choctaws sports teams and stay involved in other campus organizations.

Job prospects look bright. The median annual wage for electrical engineers in the U.S. in 2018 was \$96,640, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

For additional information, contact Chris Maggio at 601-925-3213.



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