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SIU welcomes the College of Applied Sciences and Arts

CARBONDALE, Ill. —For the second time in a decade, Southern Illinois University's College of Technical Careers will get a new name.

In regular action Thursday (July 11) in Carbondale, SIU's Board of Trustees voted to call it the College of Applied Sciences and Arts, reflecting a shift in emphasis from associate to bachelor's degrees. In keeping with that shift, the board also approved proposals to abolish nine of the college's 16 two-year programs.

"With the support of our faculty, staff and administration, we have developed a structure for the college that is not only consistent with that of other colleges on campus but which will better prepare students for today's workplace," said Dean Elaine M. Vitello.

"Our new name reflects that accomplishment as well as some new needs that we hope to address in the coming months."

Six of the two-year programs abolished—architectural technology, automotive technology, aviation maintenance technology, dental hygiene, mortuary science and funeral service, and radiologic technology—have approved four-year counterparts waiting in the wings. A seventh—electronics technology—will become a specialization within the college's existing bachelor's in electronic management. The remaining two programs—commercial graphics and photographic production technologies—will be cut.

Changes will take place over three years, with some programs closing admissions as early as fall semester. All programs will close by 1999.

The college last changed its name in 1987, dropping the "School of Technical Careers" handle it adopted in 1973. The college was created in 1949 as the "Division of Technical and Adult Education" and became the Vocational-Technical Institute three years later.