

A&T STATE

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Increasing support for national engineering and technical endeavors. It will also be a boon for the professional development of our professors, researchers and students and assist us as we continue seeking authorization to offer doctoral degrees in engineering."

The NASA award comes less than a month after A&T was designated by the Historically Black Research University Foundation for Science and Technology as a research University and just a week after a team of consultants to President C.D. Spangler and the Board of Governors, recommended that A&T be allowed to plan and implement Ph.D. program in electrical and mechanical engineering. If the recommendation is accepted by the Board, A&T would become the first historically black state university in North Carolina to be authorized to offer a doctoral degree.

"We have a proven track record in engineering, teaching and research" said Dr. Harold L. Martin, dean of A&T's School of Engineering, who will direct the NASA program. "The contributions of our outstanding faculty will have a significant impact on the space program, as we seek to assist NACA and industry in meeting the nation's space goals."

Martin said A&T's initial aerospace research will be related to areas of particular interest to NASA. "We consider the next great challenge in space engineering research to be the exploration of the planets and space platform technologies," said Martin. "This will provide the focus for research at A&T's center. It will be helpful in attracting students, particularly minority students, who can meet the demands in the aerospace industry."

He pointed out that A&T is already operating a NASA-funded \$8.4 million joint Mars Mission Research Center with North Carolina State University. The University is also involved in the Space Technology Development and Utilization Program under a \$5.5 million contract with NASA. Martin added that A&T previously received a \$2.5 million grant from the National Science Foundation to play a national leadership role in increasing the number of black Ph.D.s in electrical engineering and computer science.

A&T, a 100-year-old land-grant University has become a leader in the field of engineering education and research. "A&T has an active and successful program for recruiting minorities in engineering and science, ranking in the top five producers of minority engineers for a number of years," said Martin. "Locating the proposed center of excellence at A&T should go a long way toward ensuring a supply of minority engineers trained in aerospace engineering."

The University offers undergraduate majors in electrical, mechanical, industrial, chemical, civil, and architectural engineering. Graduate degrees are awarded in architectural, electrical, industrial, and mechanical engineering. The University offers the Master of Science in Engineering degree.



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SHAW U.

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Wisdom is often just knowing when to keep your mouth shut.

Sometimes you have to climb the mountain to get the full picture of the valley below.