

Program Review

Executive Summary

Plastics & Polymer Engineering Technology

Majors Reviewed:

- *Plastics & Polymer Engineering Technology (BPS), B.S.*
- *Plastics and Polymer (PS), A.A.S.*

2020



Pennsylvania
College of Technology
A Penn State Affiliate

As one of only six Plastics Engineering Technology programs accredited by the Engineering Technology Accreditation Commission (ETAC) of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET), the Plastics and Polymer program strives to fulfill the vision of Penn College: to be a nationally recognized leader in applied technology education. This commitment is echoed by consistent support from industry through donations and scholarships, demand for graduates, and partnership through the Industrial Advisory Board.

Driven by faculty with industry experience, program curricula are constantly evaluated and updated to keep pace with rapid changes in technology, processing techniques, and industry needs. Faculty also remain current in the discipline through workshops and seminars presented in partnership with the Plastics Innovation and Resource Center (PIRC), as well as attendance at national workshops, conferences, and presentations.

After an internal program review, the following key findings are presented:

Program Strengths:

- Graduates are consistently in high demand, with many students receiving multiple job offers upon or before graduation. These offers include family sustaining salaries and other generous benefits.
- Curriculum and assessment are focused on continuous improvement. Faculty strive to keep themselves and the program aligned with current technology and the industry as a whole.

Opportunities for Growth:

- Strengthen and expand industry and government partnerships to acquire capital equipment needed to stay on the cutting-edge of the field and remain aligned with industry demand.
- Develop new, unique, and engaging recruitment strategies and tools to attract the next generation of students into the field.