

HIGH SCHOOL APPROPRIATE ENGINEERING CONTENT KNOWLEDGE IN THE  
INFUSION OF ENGINEERING DESIGN INTO K-12 CURRICULUM  
(Under the General Topic of “Engineering Design in Secondary Education” and of  
“Vision and Recommendations for Engineering-Oriented Professional Development”)

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College of Education, University of Georgia

Professors:

Dr. Robert Wicklein, Dr. Roger Hill and Dr. John Mativo

Advisors:

Dr. Sidney Thompson and Dr. David Gattie (Driftmier Engineering Center)

Student:

Edward Locke (edwardnlocke@yahoo.com)

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Note:

This part of the Project has been originally written during Spring 2009,  
in the NCETE Core 4 - Engineering Design in STEM Education course taught by  
Dr. Kurt Becker (Utah State University),  
Dr. Mark Tufenkjian (California State University Los Angeles),  
Dr. Rodney L. Custer and Dr. Jenny Daugherty (Illinois State University).  
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## PART ONE

### Introduction

“Technology education is a field of study that seeks to promote technological literacy for all students.” In the United States, technology education has been part of the K-12 curriculum and is undergoing changes in recent decades in the direction of infusing engineering design as an important factor in the curriculum (Smith, 2006, pp. 1-3). The infusion of engineering design includes two major components: (1) specific engineering analytic principles and skills; and (2) generic engineering design process. The first component, specific engineering analytic principles and skills, is the foundation for infusing engineering design into K-12 curriculum, but for various reasons, has not been thoroughly explored yet; thus, it will be the focus of this Research Project. The second component has been sufficiently studied by many scholars, and thus, is beyond the concern of this Research Project.

### Purpose of this Research Project

#### *The Particular or Immediate Purpose of the Research Project*

This Research Project seeks to identify high school appropriate engineering content knowledge (to be more specific, the analytic and predictive principles plus computational formulas) related to the subjects of statics and fluid mechanics, using rationally established criteria and procedures. These topics, principles and associated formulas will be selected from (1) one of the most popular textbooks on statics, i.e.,

*Vector Mechanics for Engineers Statics, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition*, written by Ferdinand P. Beer, E. Russell Johnston, Jr., and Elliot R. Eisenberg, and published by McGraw-Hill Higher Education (2004); and (2) one of the most popular textbooks on fluid mechanics, i.e., *Fundamentals of Fluid Mechanics, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition*, written by Bruce R. Munson, Donald F. Young, and Theodore H. Okiishi, and published by John Wiley & Sons, Inc. (2006).

*The General or Ultimate Aim of this Research Project and its Seamless Connection to NCETE Research Agenda*

The criteria and procedures used in this Research Project will be used as a working model for identifying high school appropriate engineering content knowledge in other subjects (such as dynamics, mechanism design, thermodynamics, heat transfer, and engineering economics or decision-making), which shall constitute the major endeavors of my dissertation research aimed at

1. Infusion of engineering design into secondary education: Creating a list of high school appropriate topics featuring both analytic and predictive principles as well as computational formulas, to be well organized into relevant and cohesively related subjects (such as statics and dynamics, material strength and selection, fluid and aerodynamics, mechanism design and selection, etc.). This could serve as a reference for systematically infusing engineering design into K-12 curriculum, through collaborative efforts of many stakeholders in K-12 engineering and technology education;
2. Vision and recommendations for engineering-oriented professional development: Developing a working model for systematically training new

generations of K-12 engineering and technology teachers who could implement K-12 engineering and technology curriculum.

The above two aims could be integrated into the general topics of “Professional Development Models to Infuse Engineering Design in Secondary Education” and of “Vision and Recommendations for Engineering-Oriented Professional Development,” as listed in the NCETE (National Center for Engineering and Technology Education) Core 4 Course Research Project Activity information sheet, during the Utah State University’s Engineering & Technology Education (ETE) 7040 (Engineering Design in STEM Education) course, taught in Spring 2009, by Dr. Kurt Becker (Utah State University), Dr. Mark Tufenkjian (California State University Los Angeles), Dr. Rodney L. Custer and Dr. Jenny Daugherty (Illinois State University).

#### Potential Significance of this Research Project

This Research Project seeks to make a meaningful contribution to the national endeavors for improving K-12 engineering and technology teacher preparation, in the direction of infusing greater amount of specific engineering analytic and predictive knowledge content. This objective is in the same direction of the new B.S. Degree in Engineering & Technology Education (T&E in STEM) at Utah State University, to be implemented in the coming Fall Semester, 2009. This new direction is also reflected in the *Proposed Model for Infusing Engineering Design into K-12 Curriculum*, which I have presented in the International Technology Education Association’s 71<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference held in the Kentucky International Convention Center (Friday March 27,

2009, in Louisville, Kentucky), under the sponsorship of Dr. John Mativo, from the University of Georgia (Appendix 1). After the conference, this *Proposed Model* has been presented to faculty at the University of Georgia and further improved with workable Academic Flow Charts for a proposed B.S. Degree in K-12 Engineering and Technology Teacher Education (*Figures 1A and 1B*). This Research Project is essentially focused on high school appropriate engineering analytic content knowledge for the subjects of statics and fluid mechanics.

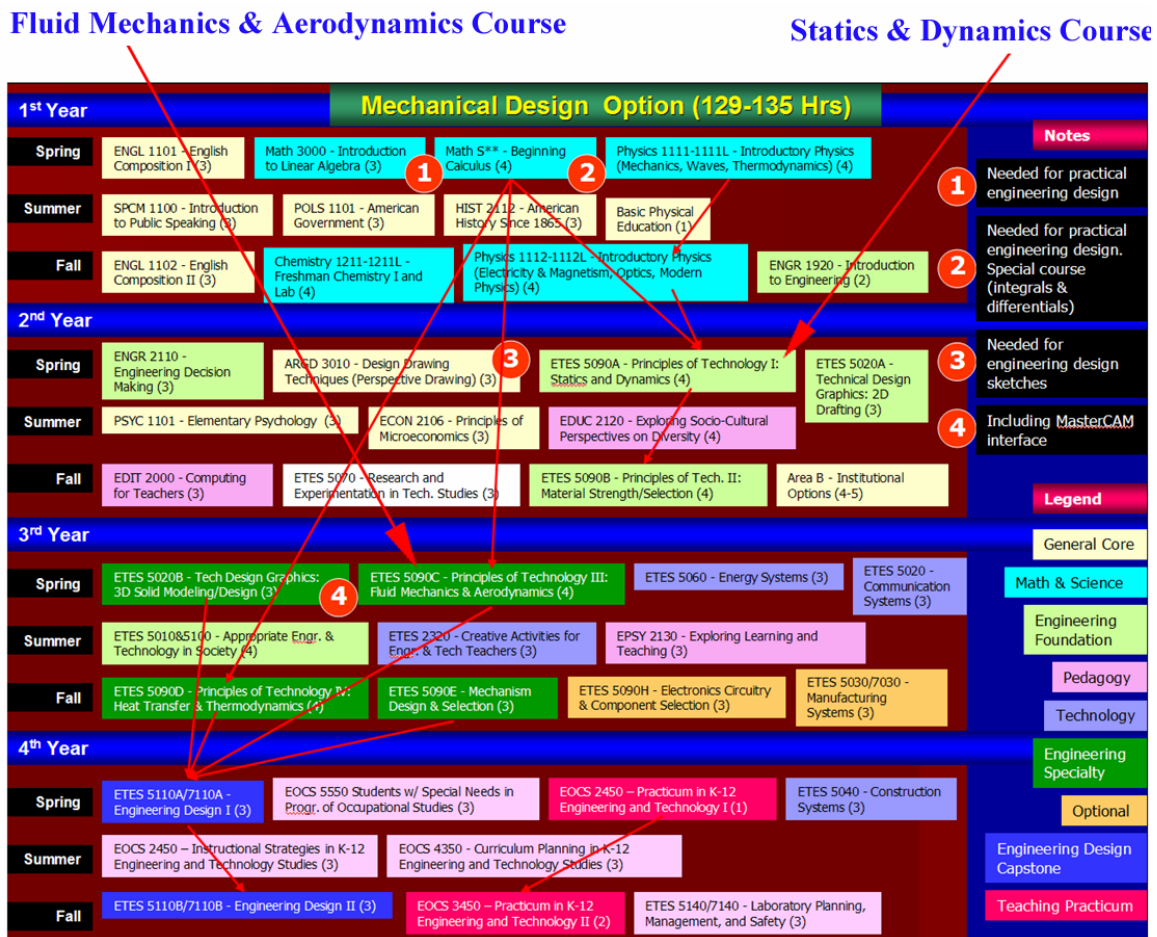


Figure 1A. The Statics & Dynamics and Fluid Mechanics & Aerodynamics courses in the Academic Flow Chart for the Mechanical Design Option of the proposed K-12 Engineering and Technology Teacher Education program.

### Research Question

This Research Project seeks to answer this question: “What are the engineering analytic and predictive knowledge content in the subjects of statics and fluid mechanics that are appropriate for K-12 students in various stages of their cognitive development (from kindergarten and elementary school, through middle school, to high school and the graduation year), in terms of matching these students’ level of mastery of foundation mathematics skills, science principles and problem-solving skills?”

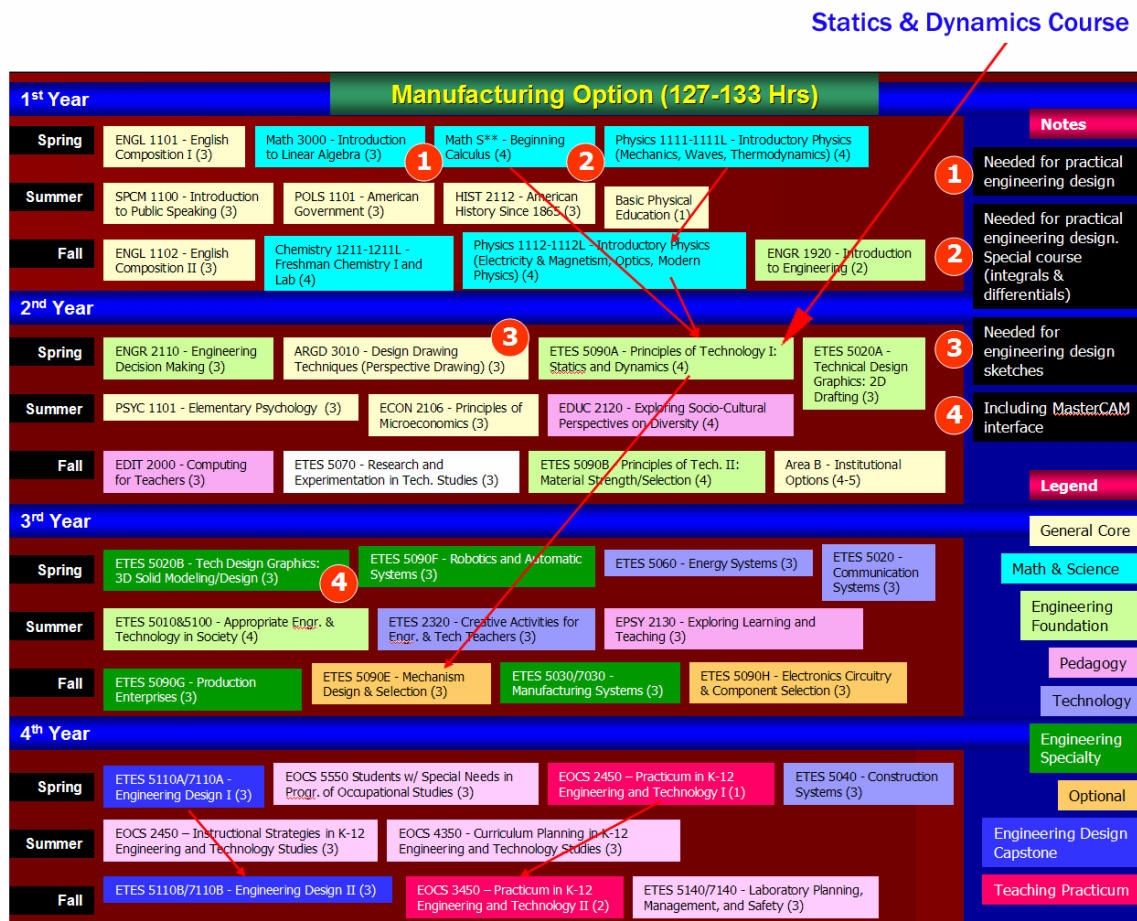


Figure 1B. The Statics & Dynamics course in the Academic Flow Chart for the Manufacturing Option of the proposed K-12 Engineering and Technology Teacher Education program.

## PART TWO

### REVIEW OF LITERATURE

#### Rationales for this Research Project

One of the most important rationales for this Research Project is to help solving the shortage in engineering graduates in the United States, by preparing K-12 students earlier than under the current system, for potential engineering majors at college level and beyond, through the improvement of current K-12 engineering and technology curriculum, as well as related teacher education program, which shall be aimed at training highly qualified teachers for

- All future K-12 students: Due to the fact that innovation in engineering design is a vital factor in American economic growth and national defense, it would be a wise idea to promote, among all K-12 students, basic literacy in engineering and technology, which constitute two major components of STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics);
- Engineering-oriented K-12 students: Unlike mathematics, chemistry and physics, K-12 engineering curriculum remains skeletal so far in American K-12 system; its main focus is on generic design process; and its analytic and predictive knowledge contents are restricted to a few areas (such as CAD, electronics, and robotics), and are generally not cohesively and systematically organized. Due to the fact that engineering is a “tough” major to pursue and that its heavy-duty STEM content often is or appears to be overwhelming to “average” students, it would be a wise idea to streamline the learning curve by

developing a well-defined, cohesive and systematic set of content standards that is similar to what K-12 mathematics, chemistry and physics currently have. This would help future high school students to succeed in their engineering and technology career pathways.

### Previous Scholarly Endeavors at Infusion of Engineering Design into K-12 Technology Education

#### *Existing Models to Help Solving the Problem of Shortage in Engineering Graduates*

Shortage in engineering graduates in the United States has been reported by many scholars and business leaders. For example, Wicklein (2006, p. 29) indicated that in the United States, “currently, engineering education has close to a 50% attrition rate for students. [The State of] Georgia currently seeks 50% of the engineering workforce from out-of-state sources.” This Research Project is particularly aimed at promoting a long-term and comprehensive strategy for solving this problem.

To help solve the problem of shortage in engineering graduates, tremendous amount of efforts have been made across the United States to prepare high school students for a college engineering education by injecting engineering design content into K-12 curriculum. Many models of high-school engineering curriculums such as *Project Lead the Way* (PLTW, <http://www.pltw.org/>) and *High School That Works* (HSTW, <http://www.sreb.org/programs/hstw/hstwindex.asp>) have been tested across the Nation. Most of these models, however, are focused on getting high school students involved in contextual, hands-on design projects, using a technology education design process (“trial



and error”), rather than on learning and applying scientific principles and mathematics-based analytical and predictive skills required to solve engineering design problems.

*New Ideas for a Cohesive and Systemic Improvement of K-12 Engineering and Technology Education in the United States*

Scholarly advice: Some scholars are calling for making engineering design the focus of high school technology education, and for incorporating these principles and skills into high school curriculum. Wicklein proposed using engineering design as the integrating factor linking engineering and science through high school technology programs (2006, p. 25), explaining that “Engineering design provides an ideal platform for integrating mathematics, science, and technology” (Wicklein, 2008). As mentioned before, the infusion of engineering design includes two major components: (1) specific engineering analytic principles and skills; and (2) generic engineering design process.

Lewis (2007, pp. 846-848) discussed the need to: (a). establish a “codified body of knowledge that can be ordered and articulated across the grades” with focused attempt to systematize the state of the art in engineering in a way that is translatable in schools (instead of short term efforts focused on a particular topic or unit), and (b). make engineering education a coherent system with the creation of content standards for the subject area, in line with science and technology education. This Research Project will contribute to the codification of high school appropriate engineering analytic content knowledge related to the subjects of statics and fluid mechanics.

Nature of engineering education: By definition, engineering design is the process of applying scientific knowledge and creativity to solve real-world technical problems; and thus, it could be considered as applied science. At high school level, engineering

design could serve as a platform to apply scientific knowledge and skills from mathematics, physics, chemistry, and other courses to authentic life settings, and thus, increase students' interests in learning. Traditionally, science curriculum are organized and managed under a system of codification that makes it possible to sequentially and methodically deliver declarative knowledge content, and up to this point, this system of codification still works; therefore, the principle of codification could probably apply to high school engineering and technology education.

#### *Connection to NCETE Agenda*

The idea of injecting engineering design-related analytical skills into high school engineering and technology curriculum is within the frameworks of National Center for Engineering and Technology Education (NCETE) 2008-2009 Research Plans (NCETE, 2008). Most basic scientific principles and analytic skills related to engineering design are based on pre-calculus mathematics (trigonometry, algebra, and geometry) with occasional needs for beginning calculus (integration and differentiation) and substantial needs for linear algebra. Traditionally, these principles and skills are taught in lower-division courses of undergraduate engineering programs. However, because pre-calculus mathematics courses are offered in most U.S. high schools, there is a reasonable possibility that we could down-load some portions of traditional college-level engineering content knowledge to high school students, so as to streamline their pathway to engineering careers.

My practical vision: In my opinion, to solve the problem of chronic shortage of engineering graduates in the United States, we need to offer K-12 students better

preparation for college-level engineering majors; and selectively teaching high school students appropriate engineering knowledge content, which up to this point, remains the domain of university undergraduate engineering programs, could be an important part of such preparation. I have discussed this idea with engineering professors at the University of Georgia, including John Mativo, Dr. David Gattie, and Dr. Sidney Thompson, and workforce education professors such as Dr. Robert Wicklein, Dr. Myra Womble; and have received positive feedback. In addition, during the 71<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference of International Technology Education Association, I am informed that 10% of all public high schools in Australia have implemented engineering program (for details, refer to Appendices 2A and 2B). In the United States, we have better material conditions for improving K-12 education; thus, we could perform better than do schools in Australia.

#### *Importance of Engineering Analytic Knowledge Content*

Core engineering concepts “go beyond tool skills...and beyond the digital skills that have captured the interest of the profession over the past two decades. Tools will change but even more important is the cognitive content and intellectual processes fundamental to effective technological problem solving and literacy” (Sanders, 2008, p. 6). Borko (2004) intensively evaluated a professional development program at a school site and concluded that in order to foster students’ conceptual understandings, teachers must have a rich and flexible knowledge of the subject they teach, including the central facts and concepts of the discipline.

The new B.S. Degree in Engineering & Technology Education (T&E in STEM) (to be started Fall 2009 at Utah State University), and the current B.S. in Education in Career and Technology Education Program at the University of Georgia are both moving

in this direction by including core engineering foundation subjects like statics and dynamics, in the ETES 5090 (Principles of Technology) course taught by Dr. John Mativo, starting in Fall 2008.

*Necessary Components for Engineering-Oriented Professional Development*

Learning from established pedagogic practice in mathematics and science education: Engineering curriculum at K-12 level is a part of the generic STEM program; and in my opinion, should draw extensive reference from the traditional mathematics and science pedagogy. In mathematics and science professional development, teachers must complete a full set of relevant courses, not just a few sporadic and disconnected training sessions. Mastery of the “core engineering concepts” could allow future high school engineering and technology teachers to possess sufficient subject-specific knowledge to teach students, and demands great amount of pre-service training time. Mastery of “process-oriented engineering skills,” on the other hand, requires years of practice in classroom teaching; and generally can not be achieved within a short period of training that lasts 2 weeks or even 2 or more semester-long courses in undergraduate teacher preparatory programs.

Engineering content knowledge: Mastery of enough content knowledge or core principles is very important in the successful implementation of educational programs. Without content knowledge, pedagogic process is meaningless. Content knowledge is like the wine while pedagogic process (a lesson plan, assessment method and checklist, homework handout and assessment rubric, etc.) is like the bottle that is used to store wine and prevent it from getting lost. Both form an interactive and symbiotic relationship. Burghardt and Hacker (2004, p. 4) concluded that “an important consideration in the

design of the lesson plan is that science, engineering, and technology teachers are responsible for teaching and their students are responsible for learning mathematics concepts. This is a non-trivial consideration and one that requires support of the science, engineering, and technology teachers in terms of math content and pedagogy.”

Mathematics skills: Mathematic is used in the construction of computational formulas for every branch of science and engineering; thus, relevant courses in mathematics are often classified as pre-requisite for engineering courses (for example, at college level, calculus I is the pre-requisite for statics). In my experience, it is a good practice for engineering teachers to review relevant mathematics at the beginning of any engineering course to make sure that students know how to use predictive analysis formulas correctly. This Research Project proposes lists of pre-requisite mathematics and science principles and skills to be reviewed before teaching statics and fluid mechanics to either high school 9<sup>th</sup> Grade or university lower-division undergraduate students (Appendix 3A, p. 70 and p. 72; and Appendix 3B, p. 171 and p. 175).

#### *Differences between Conceptual and Procedural Knowledge*

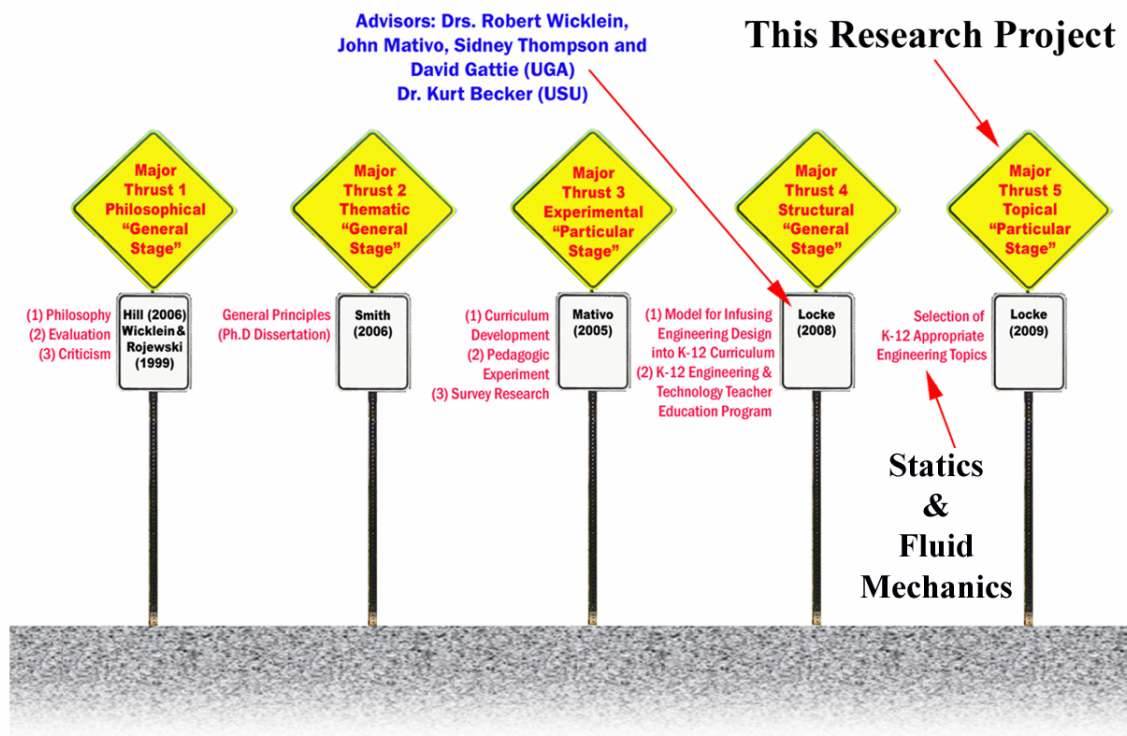
It is meaningless to learn generic “process-oriented engineering skills” (or “procedural knowledge”) without first mastering sufficient number of specific “core engineering concepts” (“conceptual knowledge”). Nevertheless, learning of “process-oriented engineering skills” does help future high school engineering and technology educators to master “core engineering concepts,” in terms of increasing efficiency in learning, locating pertinent information from library and Internet, and developing curricular units, etc. Without a general understanding of the interconnections among various pieces of knowledge (or “seeing trees without seeing the entire forest”), it is

difficult to reach a deep understanding of STEM content. Burghardt and Hacker stated that “as part of the MSTP project, we had gathered student performance data and found that percent, measurement, area, and perimeter were concepts students did not demonstrate understanding of on standardized examinations. In part, the difficulty arose from instruction occurring at too low a level. For instance, in asking math teachers how they taught percents, most gave formulaic answers that failed to develop depth of understanding. When discussing area, the approach was the memorization of an equation with a mnemonic” (2004, p. 2). This example illustrates the need for teachers to be able to connect abstract scientific concepts with simple life experience so as to help students learn. For example, in this case, the teacher could simply let a candy represent one unit, arrange 5 columns of candies, each column containing 3 candies, let student count the total number of candies and explain how multiplication and the concept of area work.

Need for the mastery of specific knowledge content: Teachers need to first master enough core concepts in order to translate them into effective teaching. To illustrate this point, Mundry (n.d., p. 3) identified some “good professional development programs” which provide teachers with experiences over time that are designed to do all of the following: (1) build knowledge (e.g., engaging in science investigations as learners, using science trade books in a study group, partnerships with scientists); (2) translate knowledge into practice (e.g., lesson design, examining classroom cases, learning misconceptions students have about content); (3) practice teaching (e.g., demonstration lessons, coaching from experienced teacher); and (4) reflect on practice (e.g., examine student work, observe videotapes of lessons). This is a workable sequence that generations of teachers have been using.

*Contributions of Scholars at the University of Georgia in Identifying Specific Engineering Analytic Knowledge Content for K-12 Institutions*

This Research Project could be considered as a portion of the 5<sup>th</sup> Major Thrust in the works of the scholars at the University of Georgia for the improvement of K-12 engineering and technology education in the United States, which generally follow a recursive path from “General Stage” to “Particular Stage” and vice versa, as explained and illustrated in *Figure 2* below.



*Figure 2. University of Georgia scholars' contributions to improving K-12 engineering and technology education.*

- 1<sup>st</sup> Major Thrust: Research conducted by Drs. Roger Hill (2006), Robert Wicklein and Jay Rojewski (1999) throughout the recent decades on K-12 technology education, which provides a general analysis of the conditions of

K-12 technology curriculum and K-12 technology teacher education at philosophical level, and serve as general guidance for subsequent endeavors by graduate students at the University of Georgia. This is a Philosophical “General Stage.” During this stage, Wicklein proposed that engineering design should be used as the integrating factor linking mathematics, science, and technology (2008). In my previously presented *Proposed Model for Infusing Engineering Design into K-12 Curriculum*, I decomposed engineering design into two parts: (1) generic design approach; and (2) particular analytic and predictive skills from various subjects of engineering.

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Major Thrust: The generic principles of engineering, which engineering design experts perceived as important to be incorporated into high school technology education, have been determined by Dr. Cameron Smith’s Ph.D dissertation completed under Dr. Wicklein’s direction (2006). This is a Thematic “General Stage.”
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Major Thrust: Curriculum development and pedagogic experiments conducted by Dr. Mativo (2005) and other University of Georgia researchers, which builds confidence that infusing engineering design into K-12 curriculum is feasible. This is an Experimental “Particular Stage.”
- 4<sup>th</sup> Major Thrust: My previously presented *Proposed Model for Infusing Engineering Design into K-12 Curriculum* (Appendix 1) constitutes a Structural “General Stage,” and has analyzed and synthesized the positive achievements of University of Georgia professors and researchers as well as educators across K-12 and collegiate levels in the United States, and other



advanced nations (such as Sweden and Finland), and translated the generic principles of engineering determined as important by Dr. Cameron Smith's dissertation (2006) into:

- Proposed K-12 Engineering and Technology Curriculum: For future generations of American K-12 students, with (1) a Regular K-12 Engineering and Technology Curriculum for all students at all school districts, regardless of race, sex, social-economic status, and academic disadvantage (a process of “democratization of engineering education” for all Americans); and (2) an extracurricular K-12 Engineering and Technology Curriculum Enrichment Program to give higher academic achievers extra opportunities to explore, and to give average and below-average academic achievers an opportunity to review and restudy (a dual process of “elitization” for academic high achievers or “elites” and of “academic affirmative action” for the “academic have-less” or “low-achievers”). This bi-component curriculum seeks to achieve a synthetic, dialectic and symbiotic balance between “equality” and “excellence” in American education, free from “liberal versus conservative” partisanship or ideological dichotomy; and thus, it could be considered as a “progressive-conservative” approach compatible with the utilitarian, pragmatic, positivist, realist and yet progressive and idealist traditions of the cultural mainstream of the American people. This is part of a streamlined K-12 through college engineering education process.

- Proposed Bachelor of Science in K-12 Engineering and Technology Teacher Program: For the University of Georgia (UGA), the National Center for Engineering and Technology Education (NCETE), and California State University Los Angeles (CSULA).
- 5<sup>th</sup> Major Thrust: This Research Project, which constitutes a portion of the Topical “Particular Stage,” will assemble comprehensive sets of high school appropriate statics and fluid mechanics topics with analytic principles and computational skills, for 2 of the 6 engineering analytic courses developed under my previously presented *Proposed Model for Infusing Engineering Design into K-12 Curriculum* (Appendix 1); this will be done on the basis of their pedagogic feasibility in terms of pre-requisite preparation in mathematics and science. This stage includes two major components:
  - Identification of high school appropriate engineering analytic content knowledge: In order for high school students to learn engineering analytic principles and predictive skills, the latter must be technically feasible and compatible to high school students’ cognitive development level; in other words, high school students must be academically ready, in terms of fulfillment of pre-requisite mathematics, physics and chemistry knowledge content. Thus, this component will tell us what engineering declarative knowledge content high school students will be ready to learn and at what grade. The major aim of this Research Project is focused on the subjects of statics and fluid mechanics. Selecting high school appropriate engineering analytic knowledge content on the basis of mathematics, physics and

chemistry preparation is in line with the idea of integrative STEM, which has been explored by many scholars and tried in many schools across the United States with varying degrees of success.

- Categorization of high school appropriate engineering analytic content knowledge into order of importance: What high school students will be ready to learn does not automatically mean that they will have enough energy to proceed. We all know that due to many reasons that are beyond the scope of this Research Project, K-12 schedules are very crowded; and the academic resources for implementing engineering curriculum are rather limited. Thus, realistically speaking, under the current conditions of K-12 systems in the United States, we probably could only attempt to infuse the most important engineering analytic content knowledge. To select the most important engineering topics for each subject, a Delphi study with engineering and technology faculty as well as practicing professional will be an appropriate extension to this research.

## PART THREE

### K-12 STUDENTS' MATHEMATICS & SCIENCE PREPARATION BASED ON GEORGIA PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR A POTENTIAL IMPLEMENTATION OF ENGINEERING CURRICULUM

#### *Limitation of This Study*

For this Research Project: This Research Project is mainly concerned with the identification of K-12 appropriate engineering analytic content knowledge in the subjects of statics and fluid mechanics, which constitute two of the foundation courses for university-level engineering majors, or high school “career pathways” under my previously presented *Proposed Model for Infusing Engineering Design into K-12 Curriculum* (Appendix 1). This identification is based on the previous learning of pre-requisite mathematics skills and scientific principles at various grade levels during the K-12 years, as mandated by Georgia Performance Standards (GeorgiaStandards.org, 2009).

For this part of the Research Project: The analysis of K-12 students' preparation of mathematics and science foundation for a potential implementation of engineering design curriculum based on solid analytic knowledge content is applicable to all of the undergraduate engineering programs currently offered at the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, the University of Georgia. These programs share many similar lower-division engineering foundation courses, as illustrated in Table 1. Both statics and fluid mechanics are featured in all of the programs. Table 1 indicates that all programs leading towards the Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Engineering degree feature some

or all of the undergraduate lower-division engineering foundation courses. The pre-calculus portions of these courses could be infused into K-12 curriculum.

Table 1  
 Commonly Shared Undergraduate Lower-Division Engineering Foundation Course  
 among Various Engineering Programs at the University of Georgia

University of Georgia Engineering Program	University of Georgia Engineering Foundation Courses								
	ENGR 1120 Graphics & Design	ENGR 2120 Statics	ENGR 2130 Dynamics	ENGR 2140 Strength of Materials	ENGR 3160 Fluid Mechanics	ENGR 3140 Thermodynamics	ENGR 3150 Heat Transfer	ENGR 2920 Electrical Circuits	ENGR 2110 Engr. Decision Making
<b>B.S. in Agricultural Engineering</b>									
Electrical & Electronic Systems	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mechanical Systems	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Natural Resource Management	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Structural Systems	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Process Operations	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>B.S. EnvE Environmental Engineering</b>									
Energy/Water Resources		✓		✓	✓				
Infrastructure/Planning/Economics		✓		✓	✓				
<b>B.S. in Biological Engineering</b>									
Environmental Area of Emphasis	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Biochemical Area of Emphasis	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Biomedical Area of Emphasis • Biomechanics Track • Instrumentation Track	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Computer Systems Engineering Program</b>									
Computer Hardware Systems	✓	✓						✓	✓
Mechatronics	✓	✓						✓	✓
Telecommunications & Wireless Systems	✓	✓						✓	✓
Software Engineering	✓	✓						✓	✓
Biological Systems	✓	✓						✓	✓
Graphics & Visualization	✓	✓						✓	✓

*Sections of Georgia Performance Standards Directly Relevant to the Infusion of Engineering Analytic Content Knowledge into the K-12 Curriculum*

Georgia Performance Standards (GeorgiaStandards.org, 2009) includes the following sections: (1) English Language Arts & Reading; (2) Mathematics; (3) Science; (4) Social Studies; (5) Health and Physical Education; (6) Modern Languages & Latin; and (7) Career, Technical, and Agricultural Education (CTAE). Although engineering design is in general a multidisciplinary approach involving all of the above sections, what this Research Project is concerned with is limited to those that are directly related to the engineering analytic skills at purely technical level. Among all of these sections, the followings are directly relevant to infusion of engineering design into K-12 system: (1) Mathematics, (2) Science; and (3) Career, Technical, and Agricultural Education (CTAE).

### Mathematics Preparations

*The Role of Mathematics Skills*

For a successful infusion of engineering analytic knowledge content into K-12 curriculum at each grade level, relevant pre-requisite mathematics and science (physics and chemistry, as well as related subjects) must be fulfilled at a previous grade level or being fulfilled at the same grade level. Mathematics skills are vital for making analytic computations using formulas, which essentially are symbolic representations of science and engineering analytic and predictive principles. At technical level, the required

mastery of mathematics principles, concepts and skills for engineering foundation

courses include:

For average K-12 student enrolled in engineering *Career Pathways*:

- Four operations: (1) addition; (2) subtraction; (3) multiplication; and (4) division. Sigma notations could be used to represent these four basic computations.
- System of numbers: (1) whole numbers; (2) decimals; (3) fractions; (4) roots and powers; (5) irrational numbers; and (6) rounding rules.
- Measurements: (1) dimensions (length, area and volume); (2) time; (3) mass; (4) temperature.
- Systems of units: (1) metric; (2) customary; and (3) conversion between metric and customary units, or among units in the same system.
- Geometry: (1) the Cartesian Coordinates System; (2) two-dimensional shapes, their perimeters, areas and other characteristics; and (3) three-dimensional solids, their edge lengths, surface areas, volumes and other perimeters. For regular shapes and solids, these perimeters can be calculated using pre-calculus mathematics; for irregular shapes and solids, calculus (mainly integration) is needed.
- Trigonometry: (1) the six trigonometric functions; (2) special triangles (isosceles, equilateral, etc.); (3) Laws of Sines and Cosines; and (4) triangulation (for structural design and development of sheet-metal parts).
- Algebra: (1) algebraic modeling; (2) simultaneous equations; and (3) linear algebra.

- Vector graphics: (1) in two-dimensional plane; and (2) in three-dimensional space; and (3) parallelogram rules for addition and subtraction of vectors.

For average college student enrolled in engineering undergraduate programs:

All of the above plus

- Beginning Calculus: (1) integration (single and multiple variables); (2) differentiation (full and partial derivatives).
- Advanced calculus: differential equations.

### *Applied Engineering Mathematics*

The most frequently used mathematics skills in practical engineering design are: (1) four operations; (2) geometry and trigonometry; (3) linear algebra; and (4) beginning calculus. Most of these skills are covered in most K-12 schools in the United States.

Therefore, the current conditions of mathematics education in K-12 systems in the United States are ready for infusion of various amounts of engineering analytic and predictive principles and computation skills. This point will be explained in the subsequent paragraphs of this part of the Research Project.

For the particular subjects of engineering statics and fluid mechanics, mathematics and physics are the most relevant pre-requisite items (for fluid mechanics, some principles of chemistry are also needed). This part of the Research Project is aimed at defining K-12 students' completion of mathematics study at various grade levels, under the State of Georgia Performance Standards (GeorgiaStandards.org, 2009).

### *Selection of Academic Performance Standards*

Reasons for the Selection of Georgia Performance Standards for Mathematics: In the United States, there are slight differences among the academic performance standards



for K-12 students in different states. In addition, the average academic performance of K-12 students among all schools in all states varies. For convenience, the State of Georgia's Performance Standards, available from the website at <https://www.georgiastandards.org/Pages/Default.aspx> has been chosen. These standards have been established by the State of Georgia Department of Education on the basis of national performance standards. According to item No. 3 of the *Frequently Asked Questions* link in the website, "The Georgia Performance Standards are the result of months of work by teacher teams, state and national experts, and consultants" who "looked at national standards from high-performing states such as Michigan, Texas, and North Carolina, and nations such as Japan, and consulted the guidelines of national groups such as the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics and the American Association for the Advancement of Science" (GeorgiaStandards.org, 2009). The average K-12 students' academic performance mandated by Georgia Performance Standards (GPS) is somewhere between the highest and lowest among all fifty states in the United States; therefore, it is conveniently chosen as a typical model that could be considered as applicable to most states in the Nation.

According to the Georgia Department of Education website at <https://www.georgiastandards.org/Pages/Default.aspx>, "The performance standards provide clear expectations for instruction, assessment, and student work. They define the level of work that demonstrates achievement of the standards, [...] isolate and identify the skills needed to use the knowledge and skills to problem-solve, reason, communicate, and make connections with other information [...] incorporates the content standard, which simply tells the teacher what a student is expected to know (i.e., what concepts he

or she is expected to master).” Therefore, these Performance Standards could be used to delineate the required or expected mastery of mathematics and science content knowledge at all grade levels throughout the K-12 system in the State of Georgia.



5/07

**Georgia Department of Education  
 Secondary Mathematics**

**Guidance for Course Sequences under the Georgia Performance Standards**

<b>Georgia Performance Standards (GPS) Math Course Sequence</b>					
	<b>Option 1</b>	<b>Option 2</b>	<b>Option 3</b>	<b>Option 4</b>	<b>Option 5</b>
<b>Grade</b>			<b>Advanced</b>	<b>Accelerated</b>	<b>Accelerated</b>
<b>6<sup>th</sup></b>	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade GPS	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade GPS	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Advanced GPS	6 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> , and 8 <sup>th</sup> grade GPS	6 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> , and 8 <sup>th</sup> grade GPS
<b>7<sup>th</sup></b>	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade GPS	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade GPS	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Advanced GPS		
<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade GPS	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade GPS	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Advanced GPS	Math 1	Accelerated Math 1
<b>9<sup>th</sup></b>	Math 1	Accelerated Math 1	Accelerated Math 1	Math 2	Accelerated Math 2
<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>	Math 2	Accelerated Math 2	Accelerated Math 2	Math 3	Accelerated Math 3
<b>11<sup>th</sup></b>	Math 3	Accelerated Math 3	Accelerated Math 3	Math 4	AP Statistics*; AP Calculus AB/BC; Joint Enrollment
<b>12<sup>th</sup></b>	Math 4; AP Statistics*; Discrete Math	AP Calculus AB/BC; AP Statistics*; Discrete Math; Joint Enrollment	AP Calculus AB/BC; AP Statistics*; Discrete Math; Joint Enrollment	AP Calculus AB; AP Statistics*; Discrete Math; Joint Enrollment	AP Statistics*; AP Calculus AB/BC; Joint Enrollment

\*AP Statistics may be taken concurrently with an upper level math course at the system’s discretion.

Option 1: This option includes grade-level standards and tasks for middle grade students. After Math 3 students may take Math 4, AP Statistics, Discrete Mathematics or a fourth year GPS math course.

Option 2: This option includes grade-level standards and tasks for middle grade students. It is possible for students who successfully complete middle grades standards to take Accelerated Mathematics. After Accelerated Math 3 students may take AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, AP Statistics, Discrete Mathematics, a fourth year GPS mathematics course related to student interest, or an appropriate post-secondary option.

Option 3: This option includes grade-level standards with enhanced and more complex tasks for middle grades students. These tasks will be provided by the GaDOE. After Accelerated Math 3 students may take AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, AP Statistics, Discrete Mathematics, a fourth year GPS mathematics course related to student interest, or an appropriate post-secondary option.

Option 4: This option requires the compacting of three years of middle grades standards into two years. After Math 4 students should be prepared to take AP Calculus AB, AP Statistics, Discrete Mathematics, a fourth year GPS mathematics course related to student interest, or an appropriate post-secondary option.

Option 5: This option is for a few students who are highly talented in mathematics. It requires the compacting of three years of middle grades standards into two years. After Accelerated Math 3, students may take AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, AP Statistics, Discrete Mathematics, a fourth year GPS mathematics course related to student interest, or an appropriate post-secondary option such as multivariable calculus.

*Figure 3. Grades 6-12 mathematics courses under Georgia Performance Standards (source: from the website*

*<https://www.georgiastandards.org/Standards/Pp/BrowseStandards/MathStandards.aspx>, under the “Middle School Math Acceleration” link; file name: MS-Math-Acceleration).*

Selection of Mathematics Course Sequence Options: *Figure 3* shows the *Math Course Sequence for Grades 6 through 12* under the State of Georgia Performance Standards (GeorgiaStandards.org, 2009). There are 5 Options under the sequence. Among these options, Option 2 and Option 3 are established for average (or “middle grade”) students. Option 4 seems to be designed for more capable students who could satisfy up to 8<sup>th</sup> grade GPS in 7<sup>th</sup> grade. Option 5 is designed for mathematically “highly talented” students. All of these options could lead to AP (Advanced Placement) Calculus course at 12<sup>th</sup> grade or even 11<sup>th</sup> grade (for Option 5 only); and this provision allows students to be prepared for engineering analytic courses at undergraduate lower-division level. Notice that under Option 2 and Option 3, the correspondence of Accelerated Math courses to grade levels are as follows: (1) Accelerated Math 1 (Grade 9); (2) Accelerated Math 2 (Grade 10); and (3) Accelerated Math 3 (Grade 11).

*An Urgent Need to Increase Domestic Students’ Opportunities in Engineering Education*

There apparently exists an urgent need to enlarge the horizon of opportunities for average American domestic students to choose engineering as a “doable” and viable career. This statement is based on the facts that (1) the American share of the percentage of all engineers in the whole world has dropped from close to 25% at the end of World War Two to an alarming figure of much less than 5% today; (2) India nowadays educates greater number of engineers per year with strongly competitive quality that is based on a standard British model of science and engineering education, and close to 50% of all graduates form B.S. in engineering programs from India’s top engineering programs come to the United States to pursue masters’ and doctoral degrees, then work for top U.S. corporations, research laboratories and universities for a few years to grasp the best U.S.

technology and finally bring the best fruits of American engineering education to India, making India a rapidly rising international engineering and economic power house to compete against traditional global leaders in science, engineering and technology, such as the United States, Great Britain, Germany and Japan; and (3) the United States has been in chronic shortage of engineering graduates in the past decades. Thus, at philosophical level, in order to achieve American independence on engineering talent pool, it would be worthwhile to consider the strategic development of a viable K-12 engineering curriculum for the majority of “average” students, instead of just for a minority of “highly talented” ones. Not all of these mathematically “highly-talented” students will pursue engineering as their careers; in fact, many of them will go to management, law, or other non-STEM professions that pay more but require less heavy-duty training in mathematics and science. Thus, relying on the group of mathematically “highly talented” students alone for solving America’s problem of chronic shortage in engineering graduates would not be a safe and realistic option. Focusing on the “average” students could guide more high school students to engineering pathways and help reversing the shortage problem into a potential surplus in the future. Since the infusion of engineering analytic content knowledge into K-12 curriculum is proposed for average students, the Options 2 and 3 are used as the basis for determining the completion of mathematics preparation for infusing engineering analytic content knowledge into any particular grade level throughout the K-12 curriculum (mostly at 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> Grades, or at high school level). For students enrolled in the Options 4 Math Course Sequence, such determination will still apply. For students enrolled in the Options 5 Math Course Sequence, such determination could be adjusted in terms of allowing mathematically “highly-talented”

students to enroll in engineering analytic courses at one grade prior to the grade determined for other options.

*Georgia Performance Standards in Mathematics Directly Relevant to the Infusion of Engineering Analytic Content Knowledge throughout the K-12 Curriculum*

This part of the Research Project is concerned with the portions of Georgia Performance Standards for Mathematics, which are relevant to the goal of infusing engineering analytic and predictive principles and computational skills into a viable future K-12 engineering curriculum.

The Georgia Performance Standards website (GeorgiaStandards.org, 2009) states that “the mathematics curriculum is organized into five content strands: number and operations, measurement, geometry, algebra, and data analysis and probability.” The Mathematics Performance Standards are organized into the Grade ranges of K-2 (early childhood), 3-5 (elementary school), 6-8 (middle school), and 9-12 (high school), and can be accessed at <https://www.georgiastandards.org/Pages/Default.aspx>. For Grades K-8, each Performance Standard is established for one Grade level; for Grades 9-12, each Standard is established for all Grades, i.e., 9, 10, 11, and 12, although the various Options of Math Course Sequence (*Figure 3*, p. 25) divide them into corresponding grade levels. These Math Performance Standards mandate the required mastery of mathematics principles and skills for students at each grade level, and could be used as a reference for determining whether the students at each grade level are ready for learning a particular engineering analytic topic in terms of computational skills. To make their relevance to the infusion of engineering analytic content knowledge into K-12 system more apparent and

more convenient to use, these Georgia Mathematics Performance Standards have been reorganized and tabulated into:

- Table 2A (Number, Four Operations & Algebra Topics for Grades K-8): This table indicates that (1) the basics of four arithmetic operations, i.e., addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, are required at Grade 2; (2) the four operations involving decimals, fractions, signs and other numeric elements are required for completion at Grade 7; and (3) the basics of systems of simultaneous equations and inequalities are required at Grade 8 (pp. 31).
- Table 2B (Geometry for Grades K-8): The table indicates that (1) the coordinate system, one among the most important constructs for engineering analysis and design, is required at Grade 4; and (2) the characteristics of common two-dimensional figures, such as triangle, square, rectangle, circle, and of three-dimensional solids, such as cone, pyramid, prism, as well as their surface and volume, are required for learning at Grade 8 (pp. 32).
- Table 2C (Measurement & Comparison for Grades K-8): The table indicates that (1) the basics of standard units for length, time and temperature are required for completion at Grade 2; and (2) units conversion and units for area and volume are required for completion at Grade 8 (pp. 33);
- Table 2D (Data Analysis, Probabilities & Statistics for Grades K-8): For the particular subjects of statics and fluid mechanics, the relevance of Performance Standards listed in this table are generic and marginal; and this is equally true for many other engineering foundation subjects (p. 33);

- Table 2E (Number, Operations & Functions Topics for Grades 9-12): The Georgia Performance Standards for the six trigonometric functions in this section are directly relevant to many topics of statics and fluid mechanics (p. 34).
- Table 2F (Trigonometry & Analytic Geometry Topics for Grades 9-12): The Georgia Performance Standards for the relevant topics will prepare students for undergraduate engineering courses (p. 35).
- Table 2G (Linear Algebra Topics for Grade 10): Linear algebra is among the most important mathematics skill for practical engineering design (p. 36).
- Table 2H (Vector Graphics Topics for Grade 11): Vectors expression with rectangular coordinates, magnitude and direction, plus their addition and subtraction could be taught at Grade 9 since its basic mathematics prerequisite, i.e., the six trigonometric functions (sine, cosine, tangent, cotangent, secant and cosecant) are required for Grade 9 (p. 36).
- Table 2K (Data Analysis, Probabilities & Statistics Topics): Similar to Table 2D, for the particular subjects of statics and fluid mechanics, the relevance of Performance Standards listed in this table are generic and marginal; and this is equally true for many other engineering foundation subjects (pp. 37).

Table 2A  
 Grades K-8 Number, Four Operations & Algebra Topics Completion Chart  
 (According to Georgia Performance Standards)

Grade	Number, Four Operations & Algebra Topics
<b>K</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Addition and subtraction (<b>MKN2</b>)</li> <li>○ Connecting numbers to quantities (<b>MKN1</b>)</li> </ul>
<b>1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Whole numbers, number sets and decimal notations (<b>MIN1, MIN2</b>)</li> <li>○ Addition and subtraction (<b>MIN3</b>)</li> <li>○ Division (<b>MIN4</b>)</li> </ul>
<b>2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Multi-digit addition and subtraction (<b>M2N2</b>)</li> <li>○ Multiplication and division (<b>M2N3</b>)</li> <li>○ Fractions (<b>M2N4</b>)</li> </ul>
<b>↑ Four Operations Basics Completed ↑</b>	
<b>3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Addition and subtraction (<b>M3N2</b>)</li> <li>○ Multiplication and division of whole numbers (<b>M3N3</b>) (<b>M3N4</b>)</li> <li>○ Decimals and common fractions and problem-solving (<b>M3N5</b>)</li> </ul>
<b>4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Representing unknowns using symbols (<b>M4A1</b>)</li> <li>○ Graphical representations for a given set of data (<b>M4D1</b>)</li> <li>○ Rounding numbers (<b>M4N2</b>)</li> <li>○ Whole numbers in the base-ten numeration system (<b>M4N1</b>)</li> <li>○ Decimals (<b>M4N5</b>)</li> <li>○ Common fractions (<b>M4N6</b>)</li> </ul>
<b>5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Multiplication and division with decimals (<b>M5N3</b>)</li> <li>○ Division of whole numbers as a fraction (<b>M5N4</b>)</li> <li>○ Set of counting numbers, subsets, odd/even, prime/composite; multiples and factors, divisibility rules) (<b>M5N1</b>)</li> <li>○ Percentage (<b>M5N5</b>)</li> <li>○ Simple algebraic expressions by substituting numbers for the unknown (<b>M5A1</b>)</li> </ul>
<b>6</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ratio. (<b>M6A1</b>)</li> <li>○ Four arithmetic operations for positive rational numbers (factors, multiples, prime factorization, Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic, Greatest Common Factor, Least Common Multiple, fractions and mixed numbers with unlike denominators) (<b>M6N1</b>)</li> <li>○ Algebraic expressions including exponents, and solution of simple one-step equations using each of the four basic operations (<b>M6A3</b>)</li> </ul>
<b>7</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Four operations with positive and negative rational numbers (absolute value of a number, repeating decimals) (<b>M7N1</b>)</li> <li>○ Representing and evaluating quantities using algebraic expressions (translation from verbal phrases, simplification and evaluation using commutative, associative, and distributive properties; addition and subtraction of linear expressions) (<b>M7A1</b>)</li> <li>○ Linear equations in one variable (using the addition and multiplication properties of equality to solve one- and two-step linear equations) (<b>M7A2</b>)</li> </ul>
<b>↑ Four Operations Completed ↑</b>	
<b>8</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Basic concepts of set theory (Venn diagrams, subsets, complements, intersection, and union of sets, set notation) (<b>M8D1</b>)</li> <li>○ Number of outcomes related to a given event. (tree diagrams, addition and multiplication principles of counting) (<b>M8D2</b>)</li> <li>○ Different representations of numbers including square roots, exponents, and scientific notation. (<b>M8N1</b>)</li> <li>○ Solving algebraic equations in one variable with absolute values; and solving equations involving several variables for one variable in terms of the others (<b>M8A1</b>)</li> <li>○ Systems of linear equations and inequalities and problem-solving. (<b>M8A5</b>)</li> </ul>
<b>↑ Basic Algebra Completed ↑</b>	



Table 2B  
 Grades K-8 Geometry Topics Completion Chart  
 (According to Georgia Performance Standards)

Grade	Geometry Topics	
<b>K</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Plane geometric figures (triangles, rectangles, squares, and circles) and solid geometric bodies (spheres and cubes) <b>(MKG1)</b></li> </ul>	
<b>1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Spatial relations (proximity, position, and direction) <b>(M1G3)</b></li> <li>○ Plane geometric figures (squares, circles, triangles, and rectangles, pentagons, and hexagons) and solid geometric figures (cylinders, cones, and rectangular prisms) <b>(M1G1) (M1G2)</b></li> </ul>	
<b>2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Plane figures (triangles, squares, rectangles, trapezoids, quadrilaterals, pentagons, hexagons, and irregular polygonal shapes) <b>(M2G1)</b></li> <li>○ Solid geometric figures (prisms, cylinders, cones, and spheres) <b>(M2G2)</b></li> </ul>	
<b>3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Perimeter and area of geometric figures (squares and rectangles). <b>(M3M3) (M3M4)</b></li> <li>○ Properties of geometric figures (scalene, isosceles, and equilateral triangles; center, diameter, and radius of a circle) <b>(M3G1)</b></li> </ul>	
<b>4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Characteristics of geometric figures (parallel and perpendicular lines in parallelograms, squares, rectangles, trapezoids, and rhombi) <b>(M4G1)</b></li> <li>○ Fundamental solid figures (cube and rectangular prism) <b>(M4G2)</b></li> <li>○ Coordinate system <b>(M4G3)</b></li> </ul>	
↑	<b>Coordinate System Completed</b>	↑
<b>5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Congruence of geometric figures and correspondence of their vertices, sides, and angles. <b>(M5G1)</b></li> <li>○ Relationship of the circumference of a circle, its diameter, and <math>\pi</math> <b>(M5G2)</b></li> <li>○ Area (parallelogram, triangle, circle, regular and irregular polygon) <b>(M5M1)</b></li> <li>○ Volume (cube and rectangular prism) <b>(M5M4)</b></li> </ul>	
<b>6</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Plane figures (lines of symmetry, degree of rotation, concepts of ratio, proportion, and scale factor) <b>(M6G1)</b></li> <li>○ Solid figures (right prisms, pyramids, cylinders, cones; front, back, top, bottom, and side views; nets for prisms, cylinders, pyramids, and cones) <b>(M6G2)</b></li> <li>○ Volume (right rectangular prisms, cylinders, pyramids, and cones) <b>(M6M3)</b></li> <li>○ Surface area (right rectangular prisms and cylinders) <b>(M6M4)</b></li> </ul>	
<b>7</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Geometric construction of plane figures <b>(M7G1)</b></li> <li>○ Transformations (translations, dilations, rotations, reflections), and the resulting coordinates <b>(M7G2)</b></li> <li>○ Properties of similarity in geometric figures (similarity, congruence, scale factors, length ratios, and area ratios, etc.) <b>(M7G3)</b></li> <li>○ Three-dimensional figures formed by translations and rotations of plane figures through space, sketching, modeling, and describing cross-sections of cones, cylinders, pyramids, and prisms) <b>(M7G4)</b></li> </ul>	
<b>8</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Properties of parallel and perpendicular lines and the meaning of congruence <b>(M8G1)</b></li> <li>○ Pythagorean theorem <b>(M8G2)</b></li> </ul>	
↑	<b>Basic 2D &amp; 3D Geometric Figure, Areas and Volumes Completed</b>	↑

Table 2C  
 Grades K-6 Measurement & Comparison Topics Completion Chart  
 (According to Georgia Performance Standards)

Grade	Measurement & Comparison Topics	
<b>K</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Length, capacity, height and weight (<b>MKM1</b>)</li> <li>○ Calendar time (<b>MKM2</b>)</li> <li>○ Ordering of events (<b>MKM3</b>)</li> </ul>	
<b>1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Length, weight, or capacity (<b>M1M1</b>)</li> <li>○ Time (<b>M1M2</b>)</li> </ul>	
<b>2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Standard units of inch, foot, yard, and metric units of centimeter and meter (<b>M2M1</b>)</li> <li>○ Time (<b>M2M2</b>)</li> <li>○ Temperature (<b>M2M3</b>)</li> </ul>	
↑	<b>Standard Units (Length, Time &amp; Temperature) Completed</b>	↑
<b>3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Elapsed time of a full, half, and quarter-hour (<b>M3M1</b>)</li> <li>○ Length measurement with appropriate units and tools (<b>M3M2</b>)</li> </ul>	
<b>4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Weight (<b>M4M1</b>)</li> <li>○ Angle (<b>M4M2</b>)</li> </ul>	
<b>5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Capacity with units and tools (milliliters, liters, fluid ounces, cups, pints, quarts, and gallons) (<b>M5M3</b>)</li> </ul>	
<b>6</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Unit conversion within one system of measurement (customary or metric) by using proportional relationships (for length, perimeter, area, and volume) (<b>M6M1</b>)</li> <li>○ Units of measure for length, perimeter, area, and volume (<b>M6M2</b>)</li> </ul>	
↑	<b>Unit Conversion Completed</b>	↑

Table 2D  
 Grades K-8 Data Analysis, Probabilities & Statistics Topics Completion Chart  
 (According to Georgia Performance Standards)

Grade	Data Analysis, Probabilities & Statistics Topics
<b>K</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Data collection and organization (<b>MKD1</b>)</li> </ul>
<b>1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Tables and graphs (creation, interpretation and data entry) (<b>M1D1</b>)</li> </ul>
<b>2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Tables and graphs (<b>M2D1</b>)</li> </ul>
<b>3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Creation and interpretation of simple tables and graphs and mathematical arguments and proofs (<b>M3D1</b>)</li> </ul>
<b>5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Analysis of graphs (circle, line, bar graphs, etc.) (<b>M5D1</b>)</li> <li>○ Collection, organization, and display of data using the most appropriate graph (<b>M5D2</b>)</li> </ul>
<b>6</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Posing questions, collecting data (through surveys or experiments), representing and analyzing the data (categorical or numerical), and interpreting results (frequency distributions and tables, pictographs, histograms; bar, line, and circle graphs; and line plots) (<b>M6D1</b>)</li> <li>○ Experimental and simple theoretical probability, the nature of sampling, and predictions from investigations (<b>M6D2</b>)</li> </ul>

Table 2D (Continued)

Grade	Data Analysis, Probabilities & Statistics Topics
<b>7</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Understanding and graphing relationships between two variables. (M7A3)</li> <li>○ Data collection and statistic analysis (frequency distributions, mean, median, mode, outliers, range, quartiles, interquartile range, graphs including pictographs, histograms, bar, line, and circle graphs, and line plots, box-and-whisker plots and scatter plots, description of the relationship between two variables, etc.) (M7D1)</li> </ul>
<b>8</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Understanding and graphing inequalities in one variable. (M8A2)</li> <li>○ Relations and linear functions. (M8A3)</li> <li>○ Graphing and analyzing graphs of linear equations and inequalities. (M8A4)</li> <li>○ Basic laws of probability (probabilities of simple independent events and of compound independent events) (M8D3)</li> <li>○ Organizing, interpreting, and making inferences from statistical data (data collection, modeling with a linear function, line of best fit from a scatter plot) (M8D4)</li> </ul>

Table 2E

Grades 9-12 Number, Operations & Functions Topics Completion Chart  
 (According to Georgia Performance Standards)

Course/Grades	Number, Operations & Functions Topics
<p><b>Accelerated Mathematics 1</b>  <b>(Grades 9, 10, 11, 12)</b>            (To be applied at Grade 9 under Math Course Sequence Options 2 &amp; 3)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Complex numbers (MA1N1)</li> <li>○ Transformations of basic functions (vertical shifts, stretches, shrinks; reflections across the x- and y-axes; domain, range, zeros, intercepts, intervals of increase and decrease, maximum and minimum values; end behavior; rates of change of linear, quadratic, square root, and other function families) (MA1A1)</li> <li>○ Simplification and operation with radical expressions, polynomials, and rational expressions (square roots, special products; area and volume models) (MA1A2)</li> <li>○ Characteristics of quadratic functions, including domain, range, vertex, axis of symmetry, zeros, intercepts, extrema, intervals of increase and decrease, and rates of change; arithmetic series and various ways of computing their sums; sequences of partial sums of arithmetic series as examples of quadratic functions) (MA1A3)</li> <li>○ Solving quadratic equations and inequalities in one variable (MA1A4)</li> <li>○ Step and piecewise functions, greatest integer and absolute value functions (MA1A5)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Accelerated Mathematics 2</b>  <b>(Grades 9, 10, 11, 12)</b>            (To be applied at Grade 10 under Math Course Sequence Options 2 &amp; 3)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Exponential functions. (MA2A1)</li> <li>○ Inverses of functions. (MA2A2)</li> <li>○ Analyze graphs of polynomial functions of higher degree. (MA2A3)</li> <li>○ Logarithmic functions as inverses of exponential functions. (MA2A4)</li> <li>○ Equations and inequalities (real and complex roots of higher degree polynomial equations using the factor theorem, remainder theorem, rational root theorem, and fundamental theorem of algebra, incorporating complex and radical conjugates; polynomial, exponential, and logarithmic equations and inequalities; solution sets of inequalities with interval notation) (MA2A5)</li> </ul>

Table 2E (Continued).

Course/Grades	Number, Operations & Functions Topics
<p><b>Accelerated Mathematics 3 (Grades 9, 10, 11, 12)</b>            (To be applied at Grade 11 under Math Course Sequence Options 2 &amp; 3)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Complex numbers in trigonometric form. (MA3A11)</li> <li>○ Sequences and series (MA3A9)</li> <li>○ Rational functions (domain, range, zeros, points of discontinuity, intervals of increase and decrease, rates of change, local and absolute extrema, symmetry, asymptotes, and end behavior; inverses of rational functions, domain and range, symmetry, and composition; solving rational equations and inequalities analytically and graphically) (MA3A1)</li> <li>○ Parametric representations of plane curves (conversion between Cartesian and parametric form; graph equations in parametric form showing direction and beginning and ending points where appropriate) (MA3A12)</li> <li>○ Polar equations (expressing coordinates of points in rectangular and polar form; graphing and identifying characteristics of simple polar equations including lines, circles, cardioids, limacons, and roses) (MA3A13)</li> <li>○ Using the circle to define the trigonometric functions (angles measured in degrees and radians, including but not limited to <math>0^\circ</math>, <math>30^\circ</math>, <math>45^\circ</math>, <math>60^\circ</math>, <math>90^\circ</math>, their multiples, and equivalences; the six trigonometric functions as functions of general angles in standard position; values of trigonometric functions using points on the terminal sides of angles in the standard position; the six trigonometric functions as functions of arc length on the unit circle; finding values of trigonometric functions using the unit circle) (MA3A2)</li> <li>○ Graphs of the six trigonometric functions (characteristics of the graphs of the six basic trigonometric functions; graphing transformations of trigonometric functions including changing period, amplitude, phase shift, and vertical shift; applying graphs of trigonometric functions in realistic contexts involving periodic phenomena) (MA3A3) Investigate functions (comparing and contrasting properties of functions within and across the following types: linear, quadratic, polynomial, power, rational, exponential, logarithmic, trigonometric, and piecewise; transformations of functions; characteristics of functions built through sum, difference, product, quotient, and composition) (MA3A4)</li> </ul>

Table 2F  
 Grades 9-12 Trigonometry & Analytic Geometry Topics Completion Chart  
 (According to Georgia Performance Standards)

Course/Grades	Trigonometry & Analytic Geometry Topics
<p><b>Accelerated Mathematics 1 (Grades 9, 10, 11, 12)</b>            (To be applied at Grade 9 under Math Course Sequence Options 2 &amp; 3)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Properties of geometric figures in the coordinate plane (distance between two points, between a point and a line; midpoint of a segment, properties and conjectures of triangles and quadrilaterals) (MA1G1)</li> <li>○ Properties of triangles, quadrilaterals, and other polygons (sum of interior and exterior angles; triangle inequality, side-angle, and exterior-angle inequality; congruence postulates and theorems for triangles: SSS, SAS, ASA, AAS, HL; properties of special quadrilaterals: parallelogram, rectangle, rhombus, square, trapezoid, and kite; points of concurrency in triangles, such as incenter, orthocenter, circumcenter, and centroid) (MA1G3)</li> <li>○ Properties of circles (chords, tangents, and secants as an application of triangle similarity; central, inscribed, and related angles; length of an arc and the area of a sector) (MA1G4)</li> <li>○ Measures of spheres (surface area and volume) (MA1G5)</li> </ul>

Table 2F (Continued)

Course/Grades	Trigonometry & Analytic Geometry Topics
<p><b>Accelerated Mathematics 2 (Grades 9, 10, 11, 12)</b>            (To be applied at Grade 10 under Math Course Sequence Options 2 &amp; 3)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Special right triangles (30°-60°-90°; and 45°-45°-90° triangles) (MA2G1)</li> <li>○ Defining and applying sine, cosine, and tangent ratios to right triangles (MA2G2)</li> <li>○ Relationships between lines and circles. (MA2G3)</li> <li>○ Recognizing, analyzing, and graphing the equations of the conic sections (parabolas, circles, ellipses, and hyperbolas). (MA2G4)</li> <li>○ Investigate planes and spheres (vertex of a rectangular prism; distance formula in 3-space; equations of planes and spheres) (MA2G5)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Accelerated Mathematics 3 (Grades 9, 10, 11, 12)</b>            (To be applied at Grade 11 under Math Course Sequence Options 2 &amp; 3)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Simplifying trigonometric expressions and verifying equivalence statements (MA3A5)</li> <li>○ Solve trigonometric equations both graphically and algebraically (solving trigonometric equations over a variety of domains, using the coordinates of a point on the terminal side of an angle to express x as <math>r \cos \theta</math> and y as <math>r \sin \theta</math>, law of sines and the law of cosines) (MA3A6)</li> <li>○ Verifying and applying <math>\frac{1}{2}ab \sin C</math> to find the area of a triangle (MA3A7)</li> <li>○ Inverse sine, inverse cosine, and inverse tangent functions. (MA3A8)</li> </ul>

Table 2G  
 Grades 9-12 Linear Algebra Topics Completion Chart  
 (According to Georgia Performance Standards)

Course	Linear Algebra Topics
<p><b>Accelerated Mathematics 2 (Grades 9, 10, 11, 12)</b>            (To be applied at Grade 10 under Math Course Sequence Options 2 &amp; 3)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Basic operations with matrices (adding, subtracting, multiplying, and inverting two-by-two and larger matrices) (MA2A6)</li> <li>○ Using matrices to formulate and solve problems (representing a system of linear equations as a matrix equation; solve matrix equations using inverse matrices, represent and solve realistic problems using systems of linear equations) (MA2A7)</li> <li>○ Solving linear programming problems in two variables (solve systems of inequalities in two variables, showing the solutions graphically; represent and solve realistic problems using linear programming) (MA2A8)</li> <li>○ Matrix representations of vertex-edge graphs (MA2A9)</li> </ul>

Table 2H  
 Grades 9-12 Vector Graphic Topics Completion Chart  
 (According to Georgia Performance Standards)

Course	Vector Graphics Topics
<p><b>Accelerated Mathematics 3 (Grades 9, 10, 11, 12)</b>            (To be applied at Grade 11 under Math Course Sequence Options 2 &amp; 3)</p>	<p>Understanding and using vectors (algebraic and geometric representations of vectors; conversion between vectors expressed using rectangular coordinates and vectors expressed using magnitude and direction; addition and subtraction of vectors and computation of scalar multiples of vectors; use of vectors to solve realistic problems) (MA3A10)</p>

Table 2K  
 Grades 9-12 Data Analysis, Probabilities & Statistics Topics Completion Chart  
 (According to Georgia Performance standards)

Course	Data Analysis, Probabilities & Statistics Topics
<p><b>Accelerated Mathematics 1</b>  <b>(Grades 9, 10, 11, 12)</b>            (To be applied at Grade 9 under Math Course Sequence Options 2 &amp; 3)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Number of outcomes related to a given event. (addition and multiplication principles of counting, simple permutations and combinations) <b>(MA1D1)</b></li> <li>○ Basic laws of probability (mutually exclusive events; dependent events. conditional probabilities; predicting outcomes) <b>(MA1D2)</b></li> <li>○ Relating samples to a population <b>(MA1D3)</b></li> <li>○ Variability of data and mean absolute deviation <b>(MA1D4)</b></li> <li>○ Determine an algebraic model to quantify the association between two quantitative variables (gathering and plotting data that can be modeled with linear and quadratic functions; curve fitting; processes of linear and quadratic regression) <b>(MA1D5)</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Accelerated Mathematics 2</b>  <b>(Grades 9, 10, 11, 12)</b>            (To be applied at Grade 10 under Math Course Sequence Options 2 &amp; 3)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Using sample data to make informal inferences about population means and standard deviations <b>(MA2D1)</b></li> <li>○ Create probability histograms of discrete random variables, using both experimental and theoretical probabilities <b>(MA2D2)</b></li> <li>○ Solve problems involving probabilities by interpreting a normal distribution as a probability histogram for a continuous random variable (z-scores are used for a general normal distribution) <b>(MA2D3)</b></li> <li>○ Understand the differences between experimental and observational studies by posing questions and collecting, analyzing, and interpreting data <b>(MA2D4)</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Accelerated Mathematics 3</b>  <b>(Grades 9, 10, 11, 12)</b>            (To be applied at Grade 11 under Math Course Sequence Options 2 &amp; 3)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The central limit theorem. <b>(MA3D1)</b></li> <li>○ Margin of error and confidence interval for a specified level of confidence. <b>(MA3D2)</b></li> <li>○ Using confidence intervals and margins of error to make inferences from data about a population. <b>(MA3D3)</b></li> </ul>

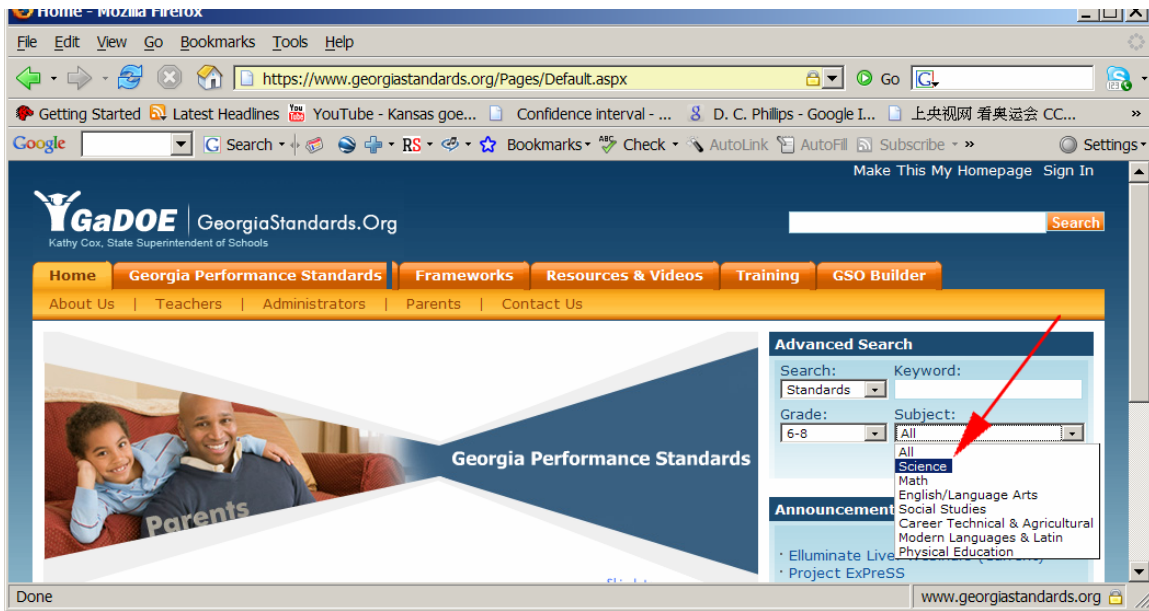


Figure 4A. Website of Georgia Performance Standards for Science (Grades K-8) at <https://www.georgiastandards.org/Pages/Default.aspx>.

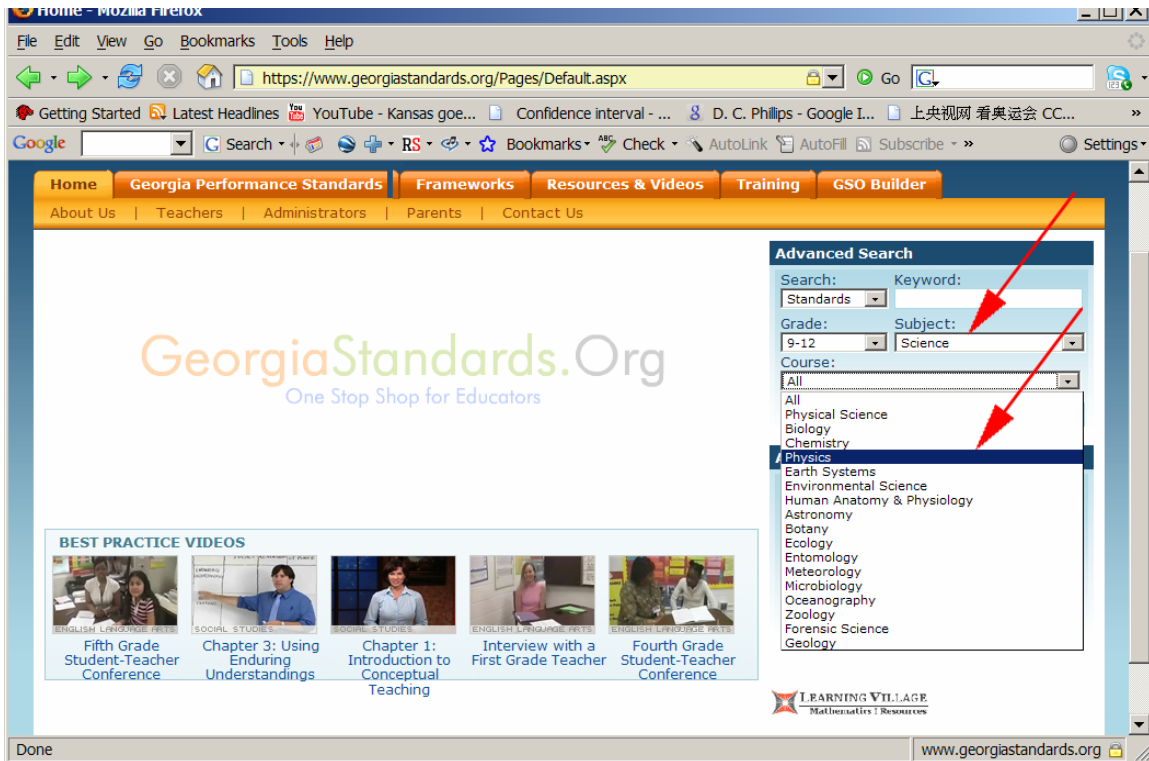


Figure 4B. Website of Georgia Performance Standards for Physics and Chemistry (Grades 9-12) at <https://www.georgiastandards.org/Pages/Default.aspx>.

## Science Preparations:

Physics, Chemistry and Materials, Environmental Science and Related Topics

### *Importance of Science Preparation*

For a successful infusion of engineering analytic knowledge content into K-12 curriculum at each grade level, relevant pre-requisite scientific principles must be mastered at a previous grade level or being fulfilled at the same grade level. Science concepts and principles are vital for understanding engineering analytic principles. Technically, the required mastery of science principles, concepts and skills necessary for the infusion of engineering analytic and predictive principles include the following categories:

- Physics: Georgia Performance Standards mandates various physics-related content knowledge and problem-solving skills for all grade levels, although the hard core of physics education is implemented at Grades 9-12. The most important concepts and principles of physics that are pre-requisites for the infusion of engineering analytic content knowledge into K-12 curriculum include (1) force, (2) energy, (3) rate, and (4) work. The Georgia Performance Standards cover the following content that are tabulated for convenience:
  - Table 3A (Physics-Related Science Topics): These topics are covered in Grades K-8, and classified as “Science” in the Georgia Standards.org website (*Figures 4A and 4B*); and each standard is written for one particular grade. Generally speaking, these standards provide sufficient amount of preparation for the infusion of engineering analytic and predictive



principles at 9<sup>th</sup> Grade; as an example, Appendix 3A - High School Appropriate Statics Tables (p. 70, and p. 72) and Appendix 3B - High School Appropriate Fluid Mechanics Tables (p. 171) indicates that most of the physics concepts and principles needed for learning various topics of statics and fluid mechanics, such as force, mass, acceleration and gravity, are covered in Grades K-8 Science courses (p. 43).

- Table 3B (Physics Topics): “Hard core” high school pre-calculus level physics are covered at Grades 9-12; and the relevant Performance Standards are listed in Table 3B (Physics Topics) on pages 44-45. As shown in *Figure 4B*, these standards are written not for a particular grade, but for a range of grades (Grades 9-12). At Clarke Central High School near the University of Georgia, physics courses are offered at Grade 9, 11, and 12 (but not at Grade 10). High school level “hard core” physics courses offer students solid preparation for university undergraduate level calculus-based physics courses in various engineering programs. For high school appropriate engineering curriculum, the relevance of the topics in these hard core high school physics courses varies, depending on the particular engineering foundation subject. For the subjects of statics and fluid mechanics, as shall be illustrated in Appendix 3A - High School Appropriate Statics Tables (p. 70, and p. 72) and Appendix 3B - High School Appropriate Fluid Mechanics Tables (p. 171), Newton’s Laws (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, plus Law of Gravitation), force, acceleration, mass, energy, power, work, velocity, density, heat, momentum are among the most

important pre-requisites needed for potentially viable high school statics and fluid mechanics instruction and learning.

- Chemistry: Important chemistry content knowledge needed as pre-requisites for engineering curriculum include (1) atomic structure; (2) properties of matters; (3) the Periodic Table; (4) the Law of Conservation of Matter; (5) chemical reactions; and (6) chemical energy and its conversion into other forms of energy. Preparation in chemistry is very important for the subject of material science, fairly important for the subject of fluid mechanics, heat transfer and thermodynamics. For some other subject such as statics and dynamics, its relevance is marginal; therefore, Georgia Performance Standards for Chemistry is not used in the selection of high school appropriate statics topics in this Research Project. Georgia Performance Standards mandates various chemistry-related content knowledge and problem-solving skills for all grade levels, although the hard core of chemistry education is implemented at Grades 9-12. The Georgia Performance Standards cover the following content that are tabulated for convenience:

- Table 4A (Chemistry and Materials-Related Topics): Table 4A lists all chemistry and material science-related Georgia Performance Standards for Grades K-8, which are selected from those listed under the generic “Science” category, from the same web page where the Physics-Related Science Topics are selected. These standards are written for particular grade levels. They generally provides some basic cognitive background in the 6 important areas of pre-requisite chemistry content knowledge listed

at the beginning of the previous paragraph, for the potential implementation of high school appropriate material science, fluid mechanics, heat transfer and thermodynamics curriculum (p. 45).

- Table 4B (Chemistry Topics): Hard core chemistry courses are offered to high school students, at Grades 9-12; the Georgia Performance Standards for Chemistry are established as a single sub-category under the general category of “Science” (*Figure 4B*); and they are written for a range of grades (for Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12). They provide a solid preparation for college undergraduate engineering programs (p. 46).
- Environmental Science: Georgia Performance Standards for Science at Grade 3 and Grade 5 mandate coverage of important knowledge about pollution, conservation of natural resources and recycling, which constitute important factors for socially responsible and ecologically sustainable engineering design, and therefore, should be incorporated as factors for the development of K-12 appropriate engineering curriculum, whenever applicable (notably in the subject of material science). These standards are listed in Table 5 (p. 47).
- General Scientific Approach: As shown in Table 6 (pp. 47-48), at Grade 7, under the category of “Science,” Georgia Performance Standards mandate sufficient amount of knowledge and skills related to the process of scientific inquiry, experimentation, and discovery, which are sufficient for students to develop appropriate methodology in engineering study and practice, which is applicable in both high school and college-level engineering curriculum.

Table 3A  
 Grades K-8 Physics-Related Science Topics Completion Chart  
 (According to Georgia Performance Standards)

Grade	Physics-Related Science Topics
<b>K</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Different types of motion (straight, zigzag, round and round, back and forth, fast and slow, and motionless) <b>(SKP2)</b> → [motion]</li> <li>○ Effects of gravity on objects. <b>(SKP3)</b> → [gravity]</li> </ul>
<b>1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Weather data and patterns in weather and climate (freezing, melting, precipitation, vaporization) <b>(S1E1)</b></li> <li>○ Changes in water as it relates to weather. <b>(S1E2)</b> → [state of matter]</li> <li>○ Light and sound. <b>(S1P1)</b> → [light and sound]</li> <li>○ Magnets and effects <b>(S1P2)</b> → [natural phenomenon]</li> </ul>
<b>2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Sources and usage of energy (light, heat, and motion) <b>(S2P2)</b> → [energy]</li> <li>○ Changes in speed and direction using pushes and pulls. <b>(S2P3)</b> → [motion]</li> </ul>
<b>3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Production of heat and the effects of heating and cooling, and understanding a change in temperature indicates a change in heat <b>(S3P1)</b> → [heat]</li> <li>○ Magnets and how they affect other magnets and common objects. <b>(S3P2)</b> → [magnetism]</li> </ul>
<b>4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Nature of light (mirrors, lenses, prisms) <b>(S4P1)</b> → [light]</li> <li>○ Production of sound, vibration of objects and variation of sound by changing the rate of vibration. <b>(S4P2)</b> → [sound]</li> <li>○ Relationship between the application of a force and the resulting change in position and motion on an object (simple machines and their uses: lever, pulley, wedge, inclined plane, screw, wheel and axle. Using different size objects, observe how force affects speed and motion. Explaining what happens to the speed or direction of an object when a greater force than the initial one is applied. Effect of gravitational force on the motion of an object <b>(S4P3)</b> → [simple machines and motion]</li> </ul>
<b>5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Electricity, magnetism and their relationship. <b>(S5P3)</b> → [electromagnetism]</li> </ul>
<b>6</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Various sources of energy, their uses, and conservation (the role of the sun as the major source of energy and the sun's relationship to wind and water energy, renewable and nonrenewable resources) <b>(S6E6)</b> → [energy]</li> <li>○ Evolutions of current scientific views of the universe (progression of basic historical scientific theories from geocentric to heliocentric, the Big Bang; the position of the solar system in the Milky Way galaxy and the universe; size, surface and atmospheric features of the planets, their relative distance from the sun and ability to support life; motion of objects in the day/night sky in terms of relative position; gravity as the force that governs the motion in the solar system; characteristics of comets, asteroids, and meteors) <b>(S6E1)</b> → [astronomy and universe]</li> </ul>
<b>8</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Forms and transformations of energy (Law of Conservation of Energy; relationship between potential and kinetic energy; characteristics of heat, light, electricity, mechanical motion, sound; conduction, radiation and convection) <b>(S8P2)</b></li> <li>○ Relationship between force, mass, and the motion of objects (velocity and acceleration; effect of balanced and unbalanced forces on an object in terms of gravity; inertia, and friction; effect of simple machines such as lever, inclined plane, pulley, wedge, screw, and wheel and axle on work) <b>(S8P3)</b></li> <li>○ The wave nature of sound and electromagnetic radiation (characteristics of electromagnetic and mechanical waves; reflection, refraction diffraction, and absorption; how the human eye sees objects and colors in terms of wavelengths, how the behavior of waves is affected by medium such as air, water, solids; amplitude and pitch) <b>(S8P4)</b></li> <li>○ Characteristics of gravity, electricity, and magnetism as major kinds of forces acting in nature (universal gravitational force, mass of and distance between the objects; advantages and disadvantages of series and parallel circuits and transfer of energy; electric currents, magnets and force) <b>(S8P5)</b></li> </ul>

Table 3B  
 Grades 9-12 Physics Topics Completion Chart  
 (According to Georgia Performance Standards)

Grade	Physics Topics
9-12	<p><b><u>Motion and Force:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Relationships between force, mass, gravity, and the motion of objects (average and instantaneous velocity; acceleration in a given frame of reference; scalar and vector quantities; comparing graphically and algebraically the relationships among position, velocity, acceleration, and time; magnitude of frictional forces and Newton’s three Laws of Motion; magnitude of gravitational forces; measuring and calculating two-dimensional motion, i.e., projectile and circular, with component vectors; centripetal force; conditions required to maintain a body in a state of static equilibrium.) (SP1)</li> <li>○ Relationships among force, mass, and motion (velocity and acceleration; applying Newton’s three laws to everyday situations by explaining the inertia, relationship between force, mass and acceleration, equal and opposite forces; relating falling objects to gravitational force; difference in mass and weight; calculating amounts of work and mechanical advantage using simple machines) (SPS8)</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Energy:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Evaluating the significance of energy in understanding the structure of matter and the universe (relating the energy produced through fission and fusion by stars as a driving force in the universe; explaining how the instability of radioactive isotopes results in spontaneous nuclear reactions) (SP2)</li> <li>○ Evaluating the forms and transformations of energy (principle of conservation of energy, components of work-energy theorem and total energy in a closed system; different types of potential energy;</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Energy (Continued):</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ kinetic energy; transformations between potential and kinetic energy; relationship between matter and energy; vector nature of momentum; elastic and inelastic collisions; factors required to produce a change in momentum; relationship between temperature, internal energy, and work done in a physical system; power) (SP3)</li> </ul> <p>Relating transformations and flow of energy within a system (energy transformations within a system; molecular motion as it relates to thermal energy changes in terms of conduction, convection, and radiation; determining the heat capacity of a substance using mass, specific heat, and temperature; explaining the flow of energy in phase changes through the use of a phase diagram) (SPS7)</p> <p><b><u>Electro-magnetic waves:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Properties of waves (all waves transferring energy; relating frequency and wavelength to the energy of different types of electromagnetic waves and mechanical waves; characteristics of electromagnetic and mechanical or sound waves; phenomena of reflection, refraction, interference, and diffraction; relating the speed of sound to different mediums; Doppler Effect) (SPS9)</li> <li>○ Properties and applications of waves (processes that results in the production and energy transfer of electromagnetic waves; behavior of waves in various media in terms of reflection, refraction, and diffraction of waves; relationship between the phenomena of interference and the principle of superposition; transfer of energy through different mediums by mechanical waves; location and nature of images formed by the reflection or refraction of light) (SP4)</li> <li>○ Relationships between electrical and magnetic forces (transformation of mechanical energy into electrical energy and the transmission of electrical energy; relationship among potential difference, current, and resistance in a direct current circuit; equivalent resistances in series and parallel circuits; relationship between moving electric charges and magnetic fields) (SP5)</li> </ul> <p>Properties of electricity and magnetism (static electricity in terms of Friction, induction, conduction; alternating and direct current; voltage, resistance and current; simple series and parallel circuits; movement of electrical charge as it relates to electromagnets, simple motors, permanent magnets) (SPS10)</p>

Table 3B (Continued)

Grade	Physics Topics
<b>9-12</b>	<p><b><u>Relativity &amp; Modern Physics:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Corrections to Newtonian physics given by quantum mechanics and relativity when matter is very small, moving fast compared to the speed of light, or very large (matter as a particle and as a wave; the Uncertainty Principle; differences in time, space, and mass measurements by two observers when one is in a frame of reference moving at constant velocity parallel to one of the coordinate axes of the other observer's frame of reference if the constant velocity is greater than one tenth the speed of light; gravitational field surrounding a large mass and its effect on a ray of light) (<b>SP6</b>)</li> <li>○ Characteristics and components of radioactivity (alpha and beta particles and gamma radiation; fission and fusion; half-life and radioactive decay; nuclear energy as an alternative energy source, and its potential problems) (<b>SPS3</b>)</li> <li>○ Phases of matter as they relate to atomic and molecular motion (atomic/molecular motion of solids, liquids, gases and plasmas; relating temperature, pressure, and volume of gases to the behavior of gases) (<b>SPS5</b>)</li> </ul>

Table 4A  
 Grades K-8 Chemistry & Materials Related Topics Completion Chart  
 (According to Georgia Performance Standards)

Grade	Chemistry & Materials Related Topics
<b>K</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Physical attributes of rocks and soils (<b>SKE2</b>) → [properties of materials]</li> <li>○ Physical properties (clay, cloth, paper, plastic, etc.); physical attributes (color, size, shape, weight, texture, buoyancy, flexibility) (<b>SKP1</b>) → [physical properties and attributes]</li> </ul>
<b>2</b>	Properties of matter and changes that occur in objects (the three common states of matter as solid, liquid, or gas; changes in objects by tearing, dissolving, melting, squeezing, etc.) ( <b>S2P1</b> ) → [states of matter]
<b>4</b>	States of water and how they relate to the water cycle and weather (temperatures at which water becomes a solid or a gas, etc.) ( <b>S4E3</b> ) → [states of water]
<b>5</b>	○ Difference between a physical change (separating mixtures, cutting, tearing, folding paper) and a chemical change (chemical reaction) ( <b>S5P2</b> ) → [chemical and physical changes]
<b>6</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Significant role of water in earth processes (oceans, rivers, lakes, underground water, and ice; various atmospheric conditions and stages of the water cycle; composition, location, and subsurface topography of the world's oceans; causes of waves, currents, and tides) (<b>S6E3</b>) → [role of water]</li> <li>○ The way the distribution of land and oceans affects climate and weather (land and water absorbing and losing heat at different rates; unequal heating of land and water surfaces to form large global wind systems and weather events such as tornados and thunderstorms; moisture evaporating from the oceans affecting weather patterns and weather events such as hurricanes) (<b>S6E4</b>) → [weather pattern]</li> <li>○ Formation of the earth's surface (temperature, density, and composition of the Earth's crust, mantle, and core; composition of rocks in terms of minerals; classification of rocks by their process of formation; - movement of lithospheric plates and major geological events on the earth's surface; effects of physical processes such as plate tectonics, erosion, deposition, volcanic eruption, gravity on geological features including oceans such as composition, currents, and tides; soil as consisting of weathered rocks and decomposed organic material; effects of human activity on the erosion of the earth's surface; conserving natural resources) (<b>S6E5</b>) → [formation of the Earth's surface]</li> </ul>
<b>8</b>	○ Scientific view of the nature of matter (atoms and molecules; pure substances and mixtures; movement of particles in solids, liquids, gases, and plasma states; physical properties such as density, melting point, boiling point; and chemical properties such as reactivity, combustibility; change in chemical properties such as development of a gas, formation of precipitate, and change in color; Periodic Table of Elements; the Law of Conservation of Matter) ( <b>S8P1</b> ) → [nature of matter]

Table 4B  
 Grades 9-12 Chemistry Topics Completion Chart  
 (According to Georgia Performance Standards)

Grade	Chemistry Topics
9-12	<p><b><u>Classified as “Physics:”</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Nature of matter, its classifications, and the system for naming types of matter (density; formulas for stable binary ionic compounds based on balance of charges; using IUPAC nomenclature for transition between chemical names and chemical formulas of binary ionic compounds; binary covalent compounds; the Law of Conservation of Matter in a chemical reaction; balancing chemical equations for synthesis, decomposition, single replacement, double replacement) (SPS2) → [nature of matter]</li> <li>○ Arrangement of the Periodic Table (trends of the number of valence electrons, types of ions formed by representative elements, location of metals, nonmetals, and metalloids; phases at room temperature) (SPS4) → [periodic table]</li> <li>○</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Classified as “Physics” (Continued):</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Properties of solutions (solute/solvent, conductivity, concentration; factors affecting the rate a solute dissolves in a specific solvent; solubility curve; components and properties of acids and bases; determining whether common household substances are acidic, basic, or neutral) (SPS6) → properties of solutions]</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Classified as “Chemistry:”</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Nature of matter and its classifications. Role of nuclear fusion in producing essentially all elements heavier than hydrogen; identifying substances based on chemical and physical properties; predicting formulas for stable ionic compounds - binary and tertiary - based on balance of charges; using IUPAC nomenclature for both chemical names and formulas: Ionic compounds (Binary and tertiary), Covalent compounds (Binary and tertiary); acidic compounds ( Binary and tertiary) (SC1) → [nature of matter]</li> <li>○ The Law of Conservation of Matter and its use to determine chemical composition in compounds and chemical reactions (identifying and balancing chemical equations: Synthesis, Decomposition, Single Replacement, Double Replacement, Combustion. Experimentally determining indicators of a chemical reaction specifically precipitation, gas evolution, water production, and changes in energy to the system. Applying concepts of the mole and Avogadro’s number to conceptualize and calculate; empirical/molecular formulas; mass, moles and molecules relationships; molar volumes of gases; different types of stoichiometry problems; conceptual principle of limiting reactants; role of equilibrium in chemical reactions) (SC2) → [the law of conservation of matter]</li> <li>○ Using the modern atomic theory to explain the characteristics of atoms (SC3) → modern atomic theory]</li> <li>○ Using the organization of the Periodic Table to predict properties of elements. (SC4) → [periodic table]</li> <li>○ Understanding that the rate at which a chemical reaction occurs can be affected by changing concentration, temperature, or pressure and the addition of a catalyst. (SC5) → rate of chemical reaction]</li> <li>○ Understanding the effects of motion of atoms and molecules in chemical and physical processes (atomic/molecular motion in solids, liquids, gases, and plasmas; amount of heat given off or taken in by chemical or physical processes; flow of energy during change of state or phase) (SC6) → [atomic/molecule motion]</li> <li>○ Properties that describe solutions and the nature of acids and bases (process of dissolving in terms of solute/solvent interactions: such as factors that effect the rate at which a solute dissolves in a specific solvent; concentrations as molarities; preparing and properly labeling solutions of specified molar concentration; relating molality to colligative properties. Compare, contrast, and evaluate the nature of acids and bases: Arrhenius, Bronsted-Lowry Acid/Bases, strong vs. weak acids/bases in terms of percent dissociation; Hydronium ion concentration; pH; acid-base neutralization) (SC7) → [acids and bases]</li> </ul>

Table 5  
 Grades 3 and 5 Environment Science Topics Completion Chart  
 (According to Georgia Performance Standards)

Grade	Environment Science Topics
<b>3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Effects of pollution and humans on the environment, protection of environment, conservation of resources, recycling of materials (<b>S3L2</b>) → [pollution, conservation and recycling]</li> </ul>
<b>5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Identifying surface features of the Earth caused by constructive processes (deposition, earthquakes, volcanoes, faults) and destructive processes (erosion, weathering, impact of organisms, earthquake, volcano), and role of technology and human intervention in the control of constructive and destructive processes (seismological studies, flood control, beach reclamation) (<b>S5E1</b>) → [constructive and destructive processes]</li> </ul>

Table 6  
 Grade 7 General Scientific Approach Topics Completion Chart  
 (According to Georgia Performance Standards)

Grade	General Scientific Approach Topics
<b>7</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Exploring the importance of curiosity, honesty, openness, and skepticism in science; exhibiting these traits in to understand how the world works (understanding the importance of, and keeping honest, clear, and accurate records in science; understanding that hypotheses can be valuable, even if they turn out not to be completely accurate) (<b>S7CS1</b>)</li> <li>○ Using tools and instruments for observing, measuring, and manipulating equipment and materials in scientific activities (using appropriate technology to store and retrieve scientific information in topical, alphabetical, numerical, and keyword files, and create simple files; measuring objects and/or substances; standard safety practices for scientific investigations) (<b>S7CS4</b>)</li> <li>○ Using the ideas of system, model, change, and scale in exploring scientific and technological matters (observing and explaining how parts can be related to other parts in a system such as predator/prey relationships in a community/ecosystem; understanding that different models such as physical replicas, pictures, and analogies, can be used to represent the same thing) (<b>S7CS5</b>)</li> <li>○ Communicating scientific ideas and activities clearly (writing clear, step-by-step instructions for conducting particular scientific investigations, operating a piece of equipment, or following a procedure; writing for scientific purposes incorporating data from circle, bar, and line graphs, two-way data tables, diagrams, and symbols; organizing scientific information using appropriate simple tables, charts, and graphs, and identify relationships they reveal) (<b>S7CS6</b>)</li> <li>○ Questioning scientific claims and arguments effectively (questioning claims based on vague attributions such as “Leading doctors say...” or on statements made by people outside the area of their particular expertise; identifying the flaws of reasoning that are based on poorly designed research, i.e., facts intermingled with opinion, conclusions based on insufficient evidence; questioning the value of arguments based on small samples of data, biased samples, or samples for which there was no control; recognizing that there may be more than one way to interpret a given set of findings) (<b>S7CS7</b>)</li> <li>○ Investigating the characteristics of scientific knowledge and how that knowledge is achieved (when similar investigations give different results, the scientific challenge is to judge whether the differences are trivial or significant, which often requires further study; even with similar results, scientists may wait until an investigation has been repeated many times before accepting the results as meaningful; when new experimental results are inconsistent with an existing, well established theory, scientists may pursue further experimentation to determine whether the results are flawed or the theory requires modification; as prevailing theories are challenged by new information, scientific knowledge may change) (<b>S7CS8</b>)</li> </ul>



Table 6 (Continued)

Grade	General Scientific Approach Topics
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Investigating the features of the process of scientific inquiry (investigations are conducted for different reasons, which include exploring new phenomena, confirming previous results, testing how well a theory predicts, and comparing competing theories; scientific investigations usually involve collecting evidence, reasoning, devising hypotheses, and formulating explanations to make sense of collected evidence; scientific experiments investigate the effect of one variable on another. All other variables are kept constant; scientists often collaborate to design research. To prevent bias, scientists conduct independent studies of the same questions; accurate record keeping, data sharing, and replication of results are essential for maintaining an investigator’s credibility with other scientists and society; scientists use technology and mathematics to enhance the process of scientific inquiry; the ethics of science require that special care must be taken and used for human subjects and animals in scientific research. Scientists must adhere to the appropriate rules and guidelines when conducting research) <b>(S7CS9)</b></li> </ul>

### Georgia Performance Standards for Engineering and Technology

#### *Characteristics of Georgia Performance Standards in Engineering and Technology*

Georgia Performance Standards include, under the general category of “Career, Technical, and Agricultural Education (CTAE),” a section on “Engineering and Technology,” as shown in *Figure 4C*. These standards are available from its web page at <https://www.georgiastandards.org/Standards/Pp./BrowseStandards/ctae-engineering.aspx>.

The Georgia Performance Standards web page indicates that the Engineering and Technology program “combines hands-on projects with a rigorous curriculum to prepare students for the most challenging postsecondary engineering and technology programs. [...] build solid writing, comprehension, calculation, problem-solving, and technical skills;” and that it encourages students to “take relevant math and science courses, such as advanced algebra, chemistry, calculus, geometry, trigonometry, physics, design, and engineering concepts.”



Figure 4C. Georgia Performance Standards for Engineering and Technology.

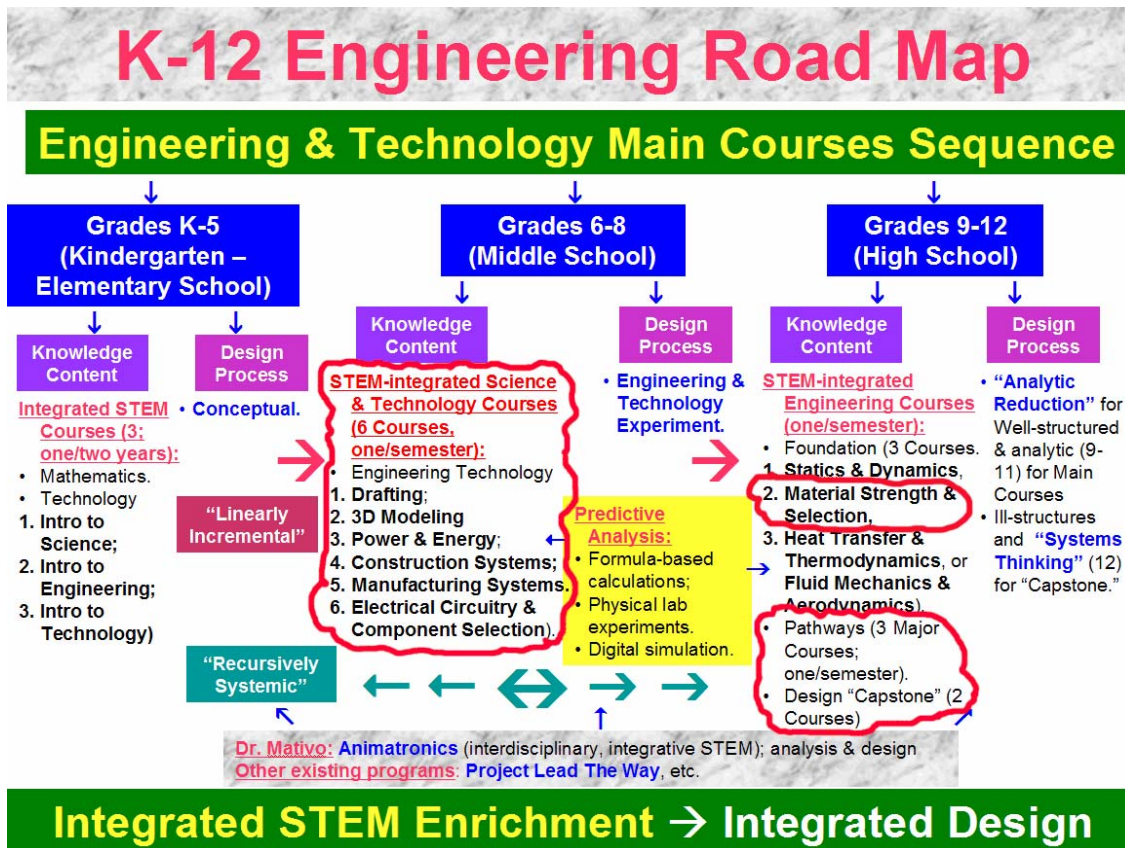


Figure 4D. Proposed Model for Infusing Engineering Design into K-12 Curriculum.

*Mutual Compatibility between Georgia Performance Standards for Engineering and Technology and the Proposed Model for Infusing Engineering Design into K-12 Curriculum*

A thorough study of the downloaded files under the various categories shown on the right column of the web page (Figure 4C) leads to the conclusion that these standards are compatible with the corresponding sections of the K-12 Engineering Road Map (Figure 4D) under the Proposed Model of Infusing Engineering Design into K-12 Curriculum (Appendix 1): (1) some of the “Engineering Technology” courses for Grades 6-8 (Middle School); (2) some of the “Pathway” and “Design Capstone” courses for

Graded 9-11 (High School); and (3) partially with one of the “Foundation” courses

(Material Strength and Selection, Grade 9), in terms of the material selection topics.

These courses under the previously presented *Proposed Model* are illustrated in the “K-12 Engineering Road Map” (*Figure 4D*), inside the clouded areas.

Table 7

Mutual Compatibility between Georgia Performance Standards for Engineering and Technology and the Proposed “K-12 Engineering Road Map”

Subject (Course) under GPS for Engineering & Technology	Compatibility with Engineering & Technology Main Course Sequence on the K-12 Engineering Road Map under the Proposed Model				
	Grades K-5 (Kindergarten to Elementary School)	Grades 6-8 (Middle School)	Grades 9-12 (High School)		
	Technology Course (Grades K-5)	Engineering Technology Course (Grades 6-8)	Foundation (Grades 9-10)	Pathway Course (Grades 10-11)	Design “Capstone” Option (Grade 12)
<b>Electronics</b>					
Foundations of Electronics		Electrical Circuitry and Component Selection		Electronics (Grade 10)	
Advanced AC and DC Circuits				Electronics Grade 11	
Digital Electronics				Electronics (Grade 11)	
Electronics Internship					Electronics (Grade 12)
<b>Energy Systems</b>					
Foundations of Engineering and Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intro to Science</li> <li>• Intro to Engineering</li> <li>• Intro to Technology</li> </ul>				
Energy and Power Technology		Power & Energy			
Appropriate and Alternative Energy Technologies		Power & Energy			
Energy Systems Internship					Energy

Table 7 (Continued).

Subject (Course) under GPS for Engineering & Technology	Compatibility with Engineering & Technology Main Course Sequence on the K-12 Engineering Road Map under the Proposed Model				
	Grades K-5 (Kindergarten to Elementary School)	Grades 6-8 (Middle School)	Grades 9-12 (High School)		
	Technology Course (Grades K-5)	Engineering Technology Course (Grades 6-8)	Foundation (Grades 9-10)	Pathway Course (Grades 10- 11)	Design “Capstone” Option (Grade 12)
<b>Engineering</b>					
Foundations of Engineering and Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intro to Science</li> <li>• Intro to Engineering</li> <li>• Intro to Technology</li> </ul>				
Engineering Concepts					All Options (Grade 12)
Engineering Applications					All Options (Grade 12)
Engineering Internship					All Options (Grade 12)
<b>Engineering, Graphics &amp; Design</b>					
Introduction to Engineering, Drawing & Design		Drafting			
Survey of Engineering Graphics		Drafting			
3-D Modeling Analysis		3D Modeling			
<b>Manufacturing</b>					
Foundations of Manufacturing and Materials Science		Manufacturing Systems	Material Strength & Selection (Grade 9)	Manufacturing (Grade 10)	
Robotics and Automatic Systems				Manufacturing (Grade 10)	
Production Enterprises				Manufacturing (Grade 11)	
Manufacturing Internship					Manufacturing
<b>Other GPS Engineering &amp; Technology Courses</b>					
Research, Design and Project Management					Generic engineering design and management experience

The mutual compatibilities between these standards and the particular courses in the “K-12 Engineering Road Map” are illustrated in Table 7.

*Relevance of Georgia Performance Standards for Engineering and Technology to  
Infusion of Engineering Analytic Content Knowledge into K-12 Curriculum*

Contributions: From Table 7, it is obvious that Georgia Performance Standards for Engineering and Technology makes great contributions to the infusion of engineering design into K-12 curriculum in the following areas: (1) “Technology” courses (“Introduction to Science, Engineering and Technology,” corresponding to Grades K-5 in the “K-12 Engineering Road Map” shown in *Figure 4D*); (2) “Engineering Technology” courses (for various engineering-related technology courses, corresponding to Grades 6-8); (3) “Pathway” courses (for various options of engineering fields, corresponding to Grades 10-11); and (4) “Design Capstone” courses (for an interdisciplinary design and internship experience at Grade 12). Therefore, these standards could be used as a basis for the eventual development of a comprehensive and systematic set of national and state K-12 engineering education performance standards in the above 4 areas.

Limitations: From Table 7, it is obvious that Georgia Performance Standards for Engineering and Technology, except for the materials selection portion of the proposed “Material Strength and Selection” course in the Grades 9-12 (High School), have no direct relationship with the four high school “Foundation” engineering courses featured in the proposed “K-12 Engineering Road Map:” (1) Statics and Dynamics, (2) Material Strength and Selection (the material strength portion), (3) Heat Transfer and Thermodynamics, (4) Fluid Mechanics and Aerodynamics. Therefore, these Georgia Performance Standards for Engineering and technology will not be used as reference for the selection of high school appropriate foundation engineering analytic principles to be incorporated into the above-mentioned four “Foundation” engineering courses.

Summary: This Part of the Research Project has presented an analysis of relevant Georgia Performance Standards, which shall be used as guidelines and references for the selection of K-12 engineering analytic principles to be infused into the proposed K-12 Engineering and Technology Education Curriculum, for the identification of relevant engineering analytic and predictive principles and skills from the subjects of statics and fluid mechanics, in the Appendices 3A and 3B to this Research Project, and for all other subject listed in Table 1 (p. 20), which shall be processed after the completion of this Research Project.

PART FOUR

SELECTION OF HIGH SCHOOL APPROPRIATE ENGINEERING ANALYTIC  
CONTENT KNOWLEDGE FOR THE SUBJECTS OF  
STATICS AND FLUID MECHANICS

The part of the Research Project is aimed at:

1. Delineating K-12 students' preparation for learning engineering analytic principles associated with particular subjects of statics and fluid mechanics, in terms of their required mastery of mathematics and science at various grade levels. To be specific, the requirements for academic performance are based on Georgia Performance standards. For statics, physics is the only relevant subject of science. For fluid mechanics, physics and a small portion of chemistry are the only relevant subjects of science.
2. Presenting a list of K-12 appropriate engineering topics related to the subjects of statics and fluid mechanics, for a five-point Likert Scale four-round Delphi survey study with engineering and technology faculty as well as practicing professionals, in order to further sequence these topics into relevant orders of importance (Appendix 3A, pp. 44-64; and Appendix 3B, pp. 93-164).

Selecting High School Appropriate Topics of Engineering Analytic and Predictive  
Principles and Computational Formulas for the Subjects of Statics and Fluid Mechanics

*Source Materials*

As mentioned before, the following textbooks are among the most popular ones used in American university undergraduate lower-division statics and fluid mechanics



courses; and they have been selected as the source of data for the determination of the appropriateness of relevant sets of statics and fluid mechanics related analytic and predictive principles and computational formulas for infusion into a potentially viable future K-12 engineering curriculum:

1. For the subject of statics: *Vector Mechanics for Engineers Statics, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition*, written by Ferdinand P. Beer, E. Russell Johnston, Jr., and Elliot R. Eisenberg, and published by McGraw Hill Higher Education (2004. ISBN: 0-07-230493-6).
2. For the subject of fluid mechanics: As mentioned before, *Fundamentals of Fluid Mechanics, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition*, written by Bruce R. Munson, Donald F. Young, and Theodore H. Okiishi, and published by John Wiley & Sons, Inc. (2006. ISBN: 0-471-67582-2).

These textbooks have been browsed and read line by line, paragraph by paragraph, and page by page. All analytic and predictive principles which are symbolically represented by their associated computational formulas, and listed under the title of the relevant chapters, and sub-titles of each of all sections in any particular chapter, have been carefully analyzed to determine the pre-requisite mathematics computational skills and principles of physics and/or chemistry needed for K-12 students to comfortably study the statics and fluid mechanics related analytic and predictive principles as well as their associated computational formulas at a particular grade level within the K-12 curriculum.

**Georgia Performance Standards (GPS) Code**      **Grade targeted by the coded GPS**      **Table No.**

**(M4G3) → 4<sup>th</sup> (1B)**

**Chapter title**      **Section title**      **Pre-requisite math skill**      **Whole Section appropriate at this Grade**

Engineering Subject: Statics		Math & Science Pre-requisite Topics & Completion Grade (Georgia Performance Standard Code)		Possible Grade to Start the Topic	
Engineering Analytic Topics & Typical Formulas [Pre-requisite Math Skills/ Science Principles]		Math	Physics	Sec	Ch
<b>Chapter 1: Introduction</b>					
1.1: What Is Mechanics?					
1.2: Fundamental Concepts and Principles $\vec{a} = \frac{\vec{F}}{m} \Rightarrow \vec{F} = m\vec{a}$ $\vec{F}_{12} = -\vec{F}_{21}$ $\vec{F} = G \frac{m_1 m_2}{r^2}$		[coordinate system] (M4G3) → 4 <sup>th</sup> (1B) [measurement: time] (M2M2) → 2 <sup>nd</sup> (1C) [Parallelogram Law for the Addition of Force/Vector Graphics] (MA3A10) → 9 <sup>th</sup> (1H)	[force] (S4P3) → 4 <sup>th</sup> (2A) or (SSP3) → 8 <sup>th</sup> (2C) [Newton's 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Laws] (SP1) → 9 <sup>th</sup> (2C) [acceleration] (SSP3) → 8 <sup>th</sup> (2C) [Newton's Law of Gravitation] (SSP5) → 8 <sup>th</sup> (2C) [scientific inquiry] (S7CS9) → 7 <sup>th</sup> (2B)	9 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>

**Computational formulas**      **Pre-requisite physics concept or principle**      **Whole Chapter appropriate at this Grade**

Figure 5. Engineering Topics Mathematics and Science Pre-requisite Completion Chart.

*Procedures of Analysis and Selection*

1<sup>st</sup> Step (Defining Mathematics and Physics Pre-requisites): As shown in Figure 5, each of the statics and fluid mechanics related engineering pre-requisite mathematics skills and physics and/or chemistry concepts or principles have been defined through careful analysis of their representative computational formulas, as well as their associate descriptive paragraphs, and tabulated in the Math and Physics columns of (1) *Statics Topics List (Engineering Topics Mathematics and Science Pre-requisite Completion Chart for the Subject of Statics)* in Appendix 3A (pp. 14-36); and (2) *Fluid Mechanics Topics List (Engineering Topics Mathematics and Science Pre-requisite Completion Chart for the Subject of Fluid Mechanics)* in Appendix 3B (pp. 14-86).

2<sup>nd</sup> Step (Finding the Earliest Grade of Fulfillment of Mathematics and Physics Pre-requisites): Relevant tables (Tables 2A through 6, pp. 30-47) in Part Three of this Research Project have been checked to find the earliest grade level where these pre-

requisite mathematics as well as physics and/or are required to be explored at a sufficient depth, according to Georgia Performance Standards, which mandate the academic performance of Georgia's K-12 students.

3<sup>rd</sup> Step (Recording the Earliest Grade of Fulfillment of Each Mathematics and Physics Pre-requisite): The Georgia Performance Standards Code representing the particular academic performance standard is listed together with its Grade level and the number of table (i.e., the location where the Georgia Performance Standards Code could be found); and all of these are typed in blue color.

4<sup>th</sup> Step (Determining the Appropriate Grade for Infusing Each Topic of Statics and Fluid Mechanics by Finding the Grade of Fulfillment of All Mathematics and Physics Pre-requisites): All of the items listed under the same section (or under several sections sharing similar items of mathematics and physics pre-requisites) are compared to find the latest Grade level, which is selected as the appropriate Grade level for the section(s) or "topics," and entered in the "Sec" (or "Section") sub-column under the "Possible Grade to Start the Topic" column. After all Sections under the same Chapter are processed in the same way, the grade levels for various Sections entered in the "Sec" sub-column are compared; and the latest grade level is selected as the appropriate grade level to start teaching K-12 students the whole chapter of relevant statics or fluid mechanics related engineering analytic and predictive principles and skills; and the Grade code is entered in the "Ch" (meaning "Chapter") sub-column.

5<sup>th</sup> Step (Double-check for Mathematics and Science Pre-requisites): To account for the complexity of mathematics and science pre-requisites, the relevant homework assignment solution manuals have been browsed page by page to make sure that no

needed pre-requisite mathematics and science items are missing. Details of the solution manuals are available in Appendix 3A (pp. 2-3) and Appendix 3B (pp. 2-3).

### *Adjustment for Mathematically “Highly-Talented” Students*

Notice that, as mentioned before, in this Research Project, the determination of the appropriate grade level to start any particular statics or fluid mechanics related engineering analytic topic is based on the Options 2 and Option 3 of middle and high school Math Course Sequence (*Figure 3*, p. 25), which are established for average performing students. As mentioned in Chapter Three, for students enrolled in the Options 4 Math Course Sequence, such determination will still apply. For mathematically “highly-talented” students enrolled in the Options 5 Math Course Sequence, such determination could be adjusted in terms of allowing students to enroll in the K-12 appropriate statics or fluid mechanics course at one earlier grade before the grade determined for all other Options.

### *Criteria for Determination of Grade Level Appropriateness of Statics and Fluid Mechanics Topics*

The following criteria have been used to determine if a particular topic of statics or fluid mechanics is appropriate for infusion into high school curriculum, and at which Grade it would be ready for instruction in terms of pre-requisite sequence.

1. Mathematic preparation check: Practically every engineering topic covered in the textbooks used in lower-division undergraduate engineering courses includes mathematically-based formulas or equations, which shall reveal the level of mathematics required for students to comfortably learn the topic’s analytic principles and formula-based predictive computational skills. For

example, the formula for the calculation of pressure is  $\vec{P} \equiv \frac{\vec{F}}{A}$ , where  $\vec{P}$  is the pressure,  $\vec{F}$  is the force exerted on a surface area  $A$ ; this formula involves division and multiplication as well as calculation of surface area; thus, mathematically speaking, it could be taught only after students master computational skills related to division and multiplication as well as calculation of surface area taught in geometry.

2. Physics preparation check: Practically every engineering topic covered in the statics and fluid mechanics textbooks used in this Research Project includes engineering principles that are based on concepts of physics and/or chemistry, which shall reveal the knowledge of physics and/or chemistry required for students to comfortably learn the topic by thoroughly understanding the underlying principles of physics and/or chemistry. For example, the pressure is defined as force exerted per unit area, or  $\vec{P} \equiv \frac{\vec{F}}{A}$  where  $\vec{P}$  is the pressure and  $\vec{F}$  is the force exerted on a surface area  $A$ ; and the force  $\vec{F}$  is defined as mass  $m$  multiplied by acceleration  $\vec{a}$  in Newton's First Law, or  $\vec{F} \equiv m\vec{a}$ ; thus, Newton's First Law is the pre-requisite principle for high school students to master before the concept of pressure could be comfortably learned. If we want to teach the concept of pressure to students at 9<sup>th</sup> Grade, then Newton's First Law must either be taught at 8<sup>th</sup> Grade, or still at 9<sup>th</sup> Grade but before the concept of pressure is taught, in a correct pre-requisite sequence.

PART FIVE

STRATEGIES FOR IMPLEMENTING ENGINEERING ANALYTIC AND  
PREDICTIVE PRINCIPLES AND COMPUTATIONAL SKILLS  
INTO K-12 ENGINEERING CURRICULUM

Structural Incorporation of Engineering Topics into K-12 Engineering Curriculum

Similar to other engineering foundation courses, topics of statics and fluid mechanics include two components: (1) those based on pre-calculus mathematics, and (2) those based on calculus mathematics. Strategies for infusing engineering analytic and predictive principles and computational skills into K-12 engineering curriculum should vary according to the current conditions of K-12 mathematics education. In this Research Project, the Math Course Sequence developed under Georgia Performance Standards for Mathematics shown in *Figure 3* (p. 25) is used as a reference for the exploration of strategies to infuse both components into K-12 curriculum.

Strategy for Infusing Statics Topics into a Potentially Viable  
High School Engineering Curriculum

*Proposed Strategy for Infusing Pre-calculus Level Statics Topics*

Summary of Appendix 3A:

A careful analysis of Appendix 3A could lead to several important conclusions for the potential structural incorporation of substantial amount of statics-related engineering

analytic and predictive principles and computational skills into a viable future K-12 engineering curriculum.

Important Statistics on High School Appropriate Statics Topics:

Out of all 10 Chapters in the selected college-level statics textbook (Beer et al, 2004), 5 whole chapters are initially found to be possibly appropriate for Grade 9 students, although some special mathematics skills (such as additions and subtractions of vectors), should be explored during the course. These include Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 (Appendix 3A, pp. 66-69). In terms of pages of text and associated exercise problems covered (excluding those at the end of the chapters, under the headings of “Review and Summary for Chapter X,” “Review Problems,” and “Computer Problem”), the above 5 Chapters, which are based on pre-calculus mathematics, cover 285 pages out of 509 pages and constitute 56.0% of all chapters in the selected textbook (Appendix 3A, p. 69). This practically means that more than half of the topics in a typical undergraduate statics course could be taught at high school level (at Grade 9). Details of this statistics are available from Appendix 3A (pp. 66-69). The above-mentioned “special mathematics” could be appropriate for 9<sup>th</sup> Grade students to learn, based on their mandated mastery of pre-requisite mathematics concepts and skills prior to 8<sup>th</sup> Grade, although they are assigned to grade level higher than 9<sup>th</sup> Grade by Georgia Performance Standards for Mathematics. For example, “vector graphics” pedagogically could be taught at 9<sup>th</sup> Grade, but is assigned to 11<sup>th</sup> Grade. Another example is the Six Trigonometry Functions, i.e., sine, cosine, tangent, cotangent, secant and cosecant for right triangles, which could be taught as 9<sup>th</sup> Grade, but are assigned to 10<sup>th</sup> Grade as part of the Mathematics Course Sequence under Option 2 and Option 3.

### Difference between Mathematics and Engineering

In mathematics courses, strict adherence to pre-requisite sequence is very important; on the other hand, in engineering, specifically selected mathematics skills could be explored in order to carry out formula-based computations; thus, they could be treated independently and out of the normal mathematics learning sequence, without damaging the integrity of the learning process.

In *Statics Topics List (Engineering Topics Mathematics and Science Pre-requisite Completion Chart for the Subject of Statics)* from Appendix 3A (pp. 14-36), these “special mathematics” are marked with a notation of “→ To be taught as a special math topic” and typed in red. The above-mentioned 5 whole chapters could constitute the statics portion of a high school appropriate Statics and Dynamics course for 9<sup>th</sup> Grade students, as shown in *Figure 4D* (p. 50). Implementing these engineering analytic and predictive knowledge content at high school level would (1) help high school graduates streamline into undergraduate engineering programs; and (2) increase efficiency of university instructors’ teaching tasks. The 5 chapters and their respective needs for “special mathematics topics” instruction are explained as follows:

- Chapter 1 (Introduction): Addition and subtraction of force vectors are to be taught as a special mathematics topic;
- Chapter 2 (Statics of Particles): The Six Trigonometric Functions are to be taught as a special mathematics topic; for Section 2.15 (Equilibrium of a Particle in Space), specific skills in linear algebra could be taught as a special mathematics topic, if desired (however, using linear algebra in section 2.15 is



NOT a part of the selected textbook, but an extra-credit skill taught by some college instructors).

- Chapter 3 (Rigid Bodies - Equivalent Systems of Forces): The Six Trigonometric Functions, vector product (also called “cross product”), and scalar product (also called “dot product”), are to be taught as special mathematics topics. In addition, for Section 3.5 (Vector Products Expressed in Terms of Rectangular Components), Section 3.6 (Moment of a Force about a Point), Section 3.8 (Rectangular Components of the Moment of a Force), Section 3.10 (Mixed Triple Product of Three Vectors) and Section 3.11 (Moment of a Force about a Given Axis), specific skills in linear algebra related to vector product and scalar product need to be explored; furthermore, summation or sigma ( $\Sigma$ ) notation should be explained.
- Chapter 4 (Equilibrium of Rigid Bodies): Summation or sigma ( $\Sigma$ ) notation should be taught as a special mathematics topic.
- Chapter 6 (Analysis of Structures): The Six Trigonometric Functions are to be taught as a special mathematics topic.

The proposed strategy:

The statics topics covered in the above 5 chapters could be used to develop the statics portion of a 9<sup>th</sup> Grade level high school Statics and Dynamics course (based on the proposed *K-12 Engineering Road Map* illustrated in *Figure 4D*, p. 50), for both their engineering analytic and predictive principles and computational skills based on pre-calculus mathematics. Prior to 9<sup>th</sup> Grade, some general knowledge associated with these

topics could be incorporated into general science study, as an introduction to engineering foundation.

Table 8 (Continued).

Engineering Subject: Statics					
Engineering Analytic Topics & Typical Formulas [Pre-requisite Math Skills/ Science Principles]	Math & Science Pre-requisite Topics & Completion Grade (Georgia Performance Standard Code)			Possible Grade to Start the Topic	
	Math	Physics		Sec	Ch
<b>Chapter 8: Friction (Continued)</b>					
8.10: Belt Friction $\ln \frac{T_2}{T_1} = \mu_s \beta$ $\frac{T_2}{T_1} = e^{\mu_s \beta}$ (For other formulas, refer to pp. 451-452)	[summation addition] (M6N1) → 6 <sup>th</sup> (2A) [four operations] (M1N3) → 1 <sup>st</sup> (2A) + (M2N3) → 2 <sup>nd</sup> (2A), or (M7N1) → 7 <sup>th</sup> (2A) [trigonometric functions] (MA2G2) → 10 <sup>th</sup> (2F) → To be taught as a special math topic [logarithmic functions] (MA2A4) → 10 <sup>th</sup> (2E) → To be taught as a special math topic [integration] → 12 <sup>th</sup> (to be taught) [differentiation] → 12 <sup>th</sup> (to be taught)	[force] (S4P3) → 4 <sup>th</sup> (3A) or (S8P3) → 8 <sup>th</sup> (3C)	PS	PS	

**Integration and differentiation covered at Grade 12**

**Whole chapter appropriate for university undergraduate statics course**

Figure 6. Notation for undergraduate level appropriate statics topics.

*Proposed Strategy for Infusing Beginning Calculus Level Statics Topics*

Statics topics that are more appropriate for an undergraduate statics course: The following chapters in the selected textbook (Beer et al, 2004) all involve substantial application of beginning calculus (integration and differentiation) and functions (such as logarithmic), which are beyond 9<sup>th</sup> Grade students’ mastery of mathematics skills, as mandated by Georgia Performance Standards for Mathematics and featured in the Math Course Sequence established by Georgia Department of Education for Secondary Mathematics (Grades 6-12), as shown in *Figure 3* (p. 25):

- Chapter 5 (Distributed Forces: Centroids and Centers of Gravity): Sigma notation, and integration;
- Chapter 7 (Forces in Beams and Cables): Integration;
- Chapter 8 (Friction): Integration, and logarithmic function;

- Chapter 9 (Distributed Forces - Moments of Inertia): Integration, partial derivatives and gradient; and
- Chapter 10 (Method of Virtual Work): Integration, derivatives, partial derivatives (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> degrees).

Under the Math Course Sequence developed by Georgia Department of Education, beginning calculus is learned at Grade 12; thus, on the *Statics Topics List* (Appendix 3A, pp. 14-36), the pre-requisites of integration and differentiation are marked with the notation “→ 12<sup>th</sup> (to be taught)” in red; and the code “PS” (post-secondary) is entered in the “Ch” sub-column of “Possible Grade to Start the Topic” column, as shown in *Figure 6*. Skipping Chapter 5 (Distributed Forces - Centroids and Centers of Gravity) will not affect the smooth transition from Chapter 4 topics to Chapter 6 topics. In fact, Chapter 6 topics (Analysis of Structure) have been implemented as a standalone topic in K-12 curriculum as a popular theme of science, such as in West Point Bridge Design Contest (<http://bridgecontest.usma.edu/>). Therefore, from a conservative pedagogic perspective, topics of statics covered in Chapters 5, 7, 8, 9 and 10 should be reserved for post-secondary engineering undergraduate programs.

### Strategy for Infusing Fluid Mechanics Topics into a Potentially Viable High School Engineering Curriculum

*Strategy for Infusing Pre-calculus Level Fluid Mechanics Topics*

#### Summary of Appendix 3B:

A careful analysis of Appendix 3B could lead to several important conclusions for the potential structural incorporation of substantial amount of fluid mechanics-related engineering analytic and predictive principles and computational skills into a viable future K-12 engineering curriculum.

Important Statistics on High School Appropriate Statics Topics:

The combination of pre-calculus and calculus based topics in fluid mechanics is quite different from what has been found in statics. Out of all 12 Chapters in the selected college-level fluid mechanics textbook (Munson et al, 2006), only 1 whole chapter (Chapter 12) is initially found to be possibly appropriate for Grade 9 students (Appendix 3B; pp. 169-170), although other Chapters (except Chapters 6 and 7) contain large portions of pre-calculus-based fluid mechanics topics. Compared to the selected textbook for statics (Beer et al, 2004), the selected textbook for fluid mechanics contain larger portions of calculus-based topics throughout all Chapters, except in Chapters 1, 3, and 10 (Appendix 3B, pp. 172-174). In terms of pages of text and associated Example problems covered (excluding those at the end of the Chapters, under the headings of “Review Problems” and “Problems”), the portions of topics based essentially on pre-calculus but with a slight inclusion of early calculus, namely, single integration and first-degree derivatives, cover 317 pages out of 621 pages, and constitute 51.0% of all Chapters in the selected textbook (Appendix 3B, p. 69). This practically means that more than half of the topics in a typical undergraduate fluid mechanics course could be taught at high school level (Grade 9). Details of this statistics are available from Appendix 3B (pp. 166-170).

For a possibly successful infusion of the above fluid mechanics topics into a potentially viable high school engineering curriculum, some special mathematics skills

should be explored or reviewed at the start of the course; these “special mathematics” are appropriate for 9<sup>th</sup> Grade students to learn, based on their mandated mastery of pre-requisite mathematics concepts and skills prior to 8<sup>th</sup> Grade, although they are assigned to grade level higher than 9<sup>th</sup> Grade by Georgia Performance Standards for Mathematics. As shown in Appendix 3B (p. 171), they include:

- (1) Special mathematics: Dot product and cross product, which would have been learned in the proposed Statics and Dynamics course for future high schools (*Figure 4D*, p. 50); based on the analysis of pre-requisite sequence among lower-division engineering foundation courses, it would be preferable that fluid mechanics be learned after statics; thus, this type of special mathematics topics are for review if in the future, the *K-12 Engineering Road Map* (*Figure 4D*, p. 50) could be adopted.
- (2) Beginning calculus: Single integration and 1<sup>st</sup> degree derivative. The relevant basic concepts and computational skills need to be explored at the start of a potential high school fluid mechanics course.
- In *Fluid Mechanics Topics List (Engineering Topics Mathematics and Science Pre-requisite Completion Chart for the Subject of Fluid Mechanics)* from Appendix 3B (pp. 14-86), these “special mathematics” are marked with a notation of “→ To be taught as a special math topic” and typed in red.

The proposed strategy:

The fluid mechanics topics covered in the selected textbook (Munson et al, 2006) could be used to develop the fluid mechanics portion of a 9<sup>th</sup> Grade (or 10<sup>th</sup> Grade, based on the proposed *K-12 Engineering Road Map* illustrated in *Figure 4D*, p. 50) high school

Fluid Mechanics and Aerodynamics course, for both their engineering analytic and predictive principles and computational skills based on pre-calculus mathematics. Prior to 9<sup>th</sup> Grade, some general knowledge associated with these topics could be incorporated into general science study, as an introduction to engineering foundation.

Fluid mechanics topics that are more appropriate for an undergraduate fluid mechanics course: As shown in Appendix 3B (pp. 50-51), among all Chapters in the selected textbook (Munson et al, 2006), two are probably beyond average high school students' ability to learn:

- Chapter 6 (Differential Analysis of Fluid Mechanics Flow): This whole Chapter appears to be too deep in calculus-based mathematics. Actually, some professors in undergraduate engineering programs cut the whole Chapter off when teaching Fluid Mechanics course.
- Chapter 7 (Similitude, Dimensional Analysis, and Modeling): This whole Chapter appears to be mildly deep in calculus-based mathematics; however, the type of “abstract thinking” required to understand and to apply the content knowledge contained in this Chapter appears to be most likely beyond the cognitive developmental maturity level of high school students. Nevertheless, some appropriate skills in 7.1 (Dimensional Analysis) could possibly be considered for high school students, within a limited scope.

In addition, large portions of the selected textbook (Munson et al, 2006) appear to be most appropriate for post-secondary education; and they are listed in Appendix 3B (pp. 172-174).

### *Strategy for Infusing Beginning Calculus Level Fluid Mechanics Topics*

Similar strategies as proposed for statics could be used in infusing fluid mechanics topics based on beginning calculus skills.

### Application of Calculus Skills in Undergraduate Engineering Foundation Courses

#### *The Extent of Calculus Skills Used*

A typical university level undergraduate engineering program usually requires three calculus courses plus one differential equation course as a mathematic foundation for engineering and physics courses. These calculus courses are usually the same as those required of students majored in mathematics and are aimed at building a comprehensive calculus skill set. In most of engineering foundation courses, however, the calculus-based computational skill set is rather very limited. This point could be illustrated by the computational formulas listed on the *List 2B. Pre-Requisites Math and Science Topics to Be Reviewed Before Teaching the Calculus Portion of Statics Topics* (Appendix 3A, p. 72; and Appendix 3B, p. 175). This is equally true for most engineering analytic principles and computational formulas found in many other textbooks used for dynamics, fluid mechanics, strength of materials, and others. In fact, across all textbooks used in these undergraduate engineering foundation courses, the required calculus skill set is usually limited to the following: (1) integrals (single and multiple); (2) derivatives (including partial derivatives, second-degree partial derivatives, third-degree non-linear differential equation, and gradient); (3) analytic geometry (polar coordinates and

rectangular coordinates); (4) vectors (dot product and cross product); and (5) sigma notation.

### *General Applications of Calculus in Science and Engineering*

Calculus includes two major parts, i.e., integration and differentiation. For the definite integrals, which constitutes a fairly large portion of calculus skills set used in undergraduate foundation engineering courses, *Calculus Early Transcendentals 8<sup>th</sup> Edition* by Howard Anton, Irl Bivens and Stephen Davis (published by John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 2005, ISBN No. 0-471-47244-1), is a popular college level textbook for all three required calculus courses in typical science and engineering programs; and it devotes 1 out of 16 chapters (Chapter 7 - Applications of the Definite Integral in Geometry, Science and Engineering, pp. 442-509), to the applications of this important portion of calculus in science and engineering. This Chapter covers the following sections: (7.1) Area Between Two Curves; (7.2) Volumes by Slicing Disks and Washers; (7.3) Volumes by Cylindrical Shells; (7.4) Length of a Plane Curve; (7.5) Area of a Surface of Revolution; (7.6) Average Values of a Function and its Applications; (7.7) Work; (7.8) Fluid Pressure and Force; and (7.9) Hyperbolic Functions and Hanging Cables. These topics, plus partial derivatives and multiple integrals, are the needed calculus skill set for typical engineering students in undergraduate lower-division courses, as well as in most of the practical engineering design on a daily basis.

### *Possibility for “Highly-Talented” Students*

Although the statics-related engineering analytic and predictive principles and skills covered in Chapters 5, 7, 8, 9 and 10 of the selected textbook (Beer et al, 2004) involve some basic calculus (mainly, integration and differentiation) and logarithmic



functions, they could still be infused into high school engineering curriculum and taught to mathematically “highly talented” students enrolled in Option 5 of the Math Course Sequence (*Figure 3*, p. 25), as extra learning materials, provided that relevant beginning calculus and logarithmic concepts and computational skills are covered at the start of the topics. However, for “average” students, these topics might be better reserved for a post-secondary course.

### *The Proposed Strategy for “Average” Students*

In the Math Course Sequence developed under Georgia Performance Standards for Mathematics (*Figure 3*, p. 25), calculus is taught after 9<sup>th</sup> Grade (at 11<sup>th</sup> Grade for mathematically “highly-talented” students enrolled in Option 5, and at 12<sup>th</sup> Grade for all other students enrolled in Options 1, 2, 3, and 4). Therefore, if the most important calculus-based engineering analytic and predictive course contents are to be considered for high school instruction, then special strategies must be used to overcome the calculus barrier. The following two approaches are proposed for consideration and illustrated in *Figure 7*:

1. The special calculus training session approach: Instead of waiting for “average” high school students to complete two full calculus courses before proceeding to the study of beginning-calculus based engineering topics, it would be possible to develop some short-term training sessions to allow average 9<sup>th</sup> Grade students to master particular sets of calculus computational skills relevant to engineering topics. Application: This approach is designed for high school level engineering subjects that have a rather smaller portion of pre-calculus based topics, but a fairly large portion of early calculus based

ones, such as dynamics. Potential advantages: This approach will allow students to explore the most important calculus-based engineering analytic principles and computational skills starting at 9<sup>th</sup> Grade, while learning the most basic skills in calculus (such as integration and differentiation) before they “formally” enroll in an AP (Advanced Placement) Calculus course; adopting this approach could (1) make study of calculus more “real-world” and attractive, and (2) smooth the transition from trigonometry-based science instruction at K-12 level to calculus-based science and engineering education at college level. Scholarly advice: I have discussed this approach with Dr. Sidney Thompson, Professor of Engineering at Driftmier Engineering Center, the University of Georgia; he indicated that as long as high school engineering and technology teachers teach special calculus topics in an “application” way that does not get into conflict with the “theoretical way” high school mathematics teachers teach them, it would be possible to do it (advisory meeting, June 11, 2009).

2. The integrative STEM approach: Students at 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Grades could concentrate on studying high school appropriate pre-calculus portion of engineering foundation topics; this alone could still help them to better prepare for college majors in engineering than what is offered under the current program. In addition, using the integrative STEM approach within the framework of Project-Based Learning (PBL), they could explore the most important ones among the early-calculus based engineering analytic and predictive principles and computational skills at 12<sup>th</sup> Grade, as part of the AP

(Advanced Placement) Calculus course. Application: This approach would work better for those engineering subjects with smaller portion of calculus-based topics, such as statics and strength of materials. Potential advantages: The advantages of integrative STEM approach to calculus-based science and engineering education might include (1) making calculus instruction less boring and more attractive to high school students; (2) fostering real-world problem analysis and solution skills; and (3) contributing to training more innovative engineering talent for the future by attracting more high school students to engineering careers. Scholarly advice: Dr. Sidney Thompson indicated that this method would work; and that he had no preference for either approach (advisory meeting, June 11, 2009).

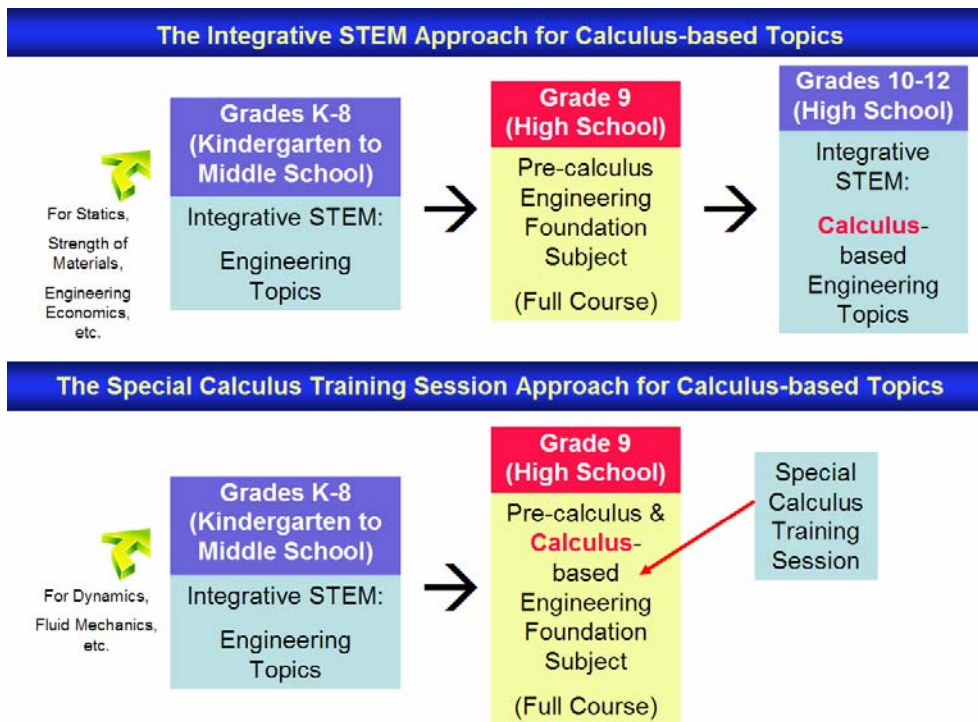


Figure 7. Two different approaches for infusing engineering analytic course content into K-12 engineering curriculum

## Selecting the Most Important Engineering Analytic and Predictive Principles and Formulas for K-12 Engineering Curriculum

### *A Proposed Five-Point Likert Scale Survey Study*

#### For the subject of statics:

Based on data available from the *Statics Topics List (Engineering Topics Mathematics and Science Pre-requisite Completion Chart for the Subject of Statics)* from Appendix 3A (pp. 14-36), statics-related engineering analytic principles and computational skills covered in the selected statics textbook (Beer et al, 2004) have been divided and tabulated into two five-point Likert Scale Delphi survey forms (*Figure 8*):

- *Statics Survey Form A (1<sup>st</sup> Round of Delphi - Likert Scale Questionnaire on the Importance of Various Statics Topics Selected for High School Engineering Curriculum For The Pre-calculus Portion)*: Statics-related analytic principles and formulas covered in Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 of the selected textbook (Beer et al, 2004) are listed in this form (Appendix 3A, pp. 44-52), which constitute a survey instrument for determining the relative importance of various pre-calculus-based topics of statics proposed to be included into a potentially viable K-12 engineering curriculum.
- *Statics Survey Form B (1<sup>st</sup> Round of Delphi - Likert Scale Questionnaire on the Importance of Various Statics Topics Selected for High School Engineering Curriculum For the Calculus Portion)*: Statics analytic principles and formulas covered in Chapters 5, 7, 8, 9 and 10 of the selected textbook (Beer et al, 2004) are listed in this form (Appendix 3A, pp. 53-64), which

constitute a survey instrument for determining the relative importance of various beginning calculus-based topics of statics proposed to be included into a potentially viable K-12 engineering curriculum.

For the subject of fluid mechanics:

Similar treatment has been applied, based on data available from the *Fluid Mechanics Topics List (Engineering Topics Mathematics and Science Pre-requisite Completion Chart for the Subject of Statics)* from Appendix 3B (pp. 14-86), fluid mechanics-related engineering analytic principles and computational skills covered in the selected fluid mechanics textbook (Munson et al, 2006) have been divided and tabulated into two five-point Likert Scale Delphi survey forms:

- *Fluid Mechanics Survey Form A (1<sup>st</sup> Round of Delphi - Likert Scale Questionnaire on the Importance of Various Statics Topics Selected for High School Engineering Curriculum For The Pre-calculus Portion)*: Pre-calculus-based fluid mechanics-related analytic principles and formulas covered in Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 8 of the selected textbook (Munson et al, 2006) are listed in this form (Appendix 3B, pp. 93-127), which constitute a survey instrument for determining the relative importance of various pre-calculus-based topics of fluid mechanics proposed to be included into a potentially viable K-12 engineering curriculum.
- *Fluid Mechanics Survey Form B (1<sup>st</sup> Round of Delphi - Likert Scale Questionnaire on the Importance of Various Statics Topics Selected for High School Engineering Curriculum For the Calculus Portion)*: Calculus-based fluid mechanics-related analytic principles and formulas covered in Chapters

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11, of the selected textbook (Munson et al, 2006) are listed in this form (Appendix 3B, pp. 128-164), which constitute a survey instrument for determining the relative importance of various beginning calculus-based topics of fluid mechanics proposed to be included into a potentially viable K-12 engineering curriculum.

*Reasons for Establishing the Order of Importance for Various Statics and Fluid Mechanics Topics*

Since the K-12 curriculum is already crowded with many mandated subjects, it is unrealistic to expect that all topics of engineering analytic and predictive principles and computational skills that are pedagogically appropriate for K-12 students could be included in any potentially viable K-12 engineering curriculum. Instead, we should collect expert opinions of the relative importance of various topics, possibly through a 5-point Likert survey study. This survey study could be used to (1) determine the relative importance of various engineering analytic principles and computational skills for inclusion into a potentially viable K-12 engineering curriculum; and (2) eventually establish a set of national or state K-12 engineering performance standards.

The five-point Likert Scale used in the relevant topics lists and survey forms listed in Appendix 3A (pp. 8-36; and pp. 44-64) and Appendix 3B (pp. 8-86; and pp. 93-164) is shown and explained below.

Likert Scale (Score of the Order of Importance) for Engineering Analysis Topics				
Totally Unimportant	Not So Important	Might Be Important	Important	Very Important
1	2	3	4	5

## *Review, Validation, and Approval of the Five-Point Likert Scale Four-Round Delphi*

### *Survey Forms*

Appendices 3A and 3B include relevant data tables and survey forms to be used in the determination of high school appropriate statics and fluid mechanics topics and their relative importance in terms of engineering education and field practice, as well as detailed proposed procedures to (1) review and validate the data contained in the tables; and (2) to approve the survey forms:

For the subject of statics (Appendix 3A):

- *Statics Topics List - Engineering Topics Mathematics and Science Pre-requisite Completion Chart for the Subject of Statics*: This List (pp. 14-36) constitutes the outcome of this Research Project and will be submitted to professors at the University of Georgia for review and validation (namely, Dr. Robert Wicklein, Dr. John Mativo, and Dr. Roger Hill at the College of Education; and Dr. Sidney Thompson and Dr. David Gattie at Driftmier Engineering Center, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences); details of the proposed procedures are available (pp. 8-13).
- *Statics Survey Form A - 1<sup>st</sup> Round of Delphi - Likert Scale Questionnaire on the Importance of Various Statics Topics Selected for High School Engineering Curriculum (For the Pre-calculus Portion)*: This Survey Form will be used in the 1<sup>st</sup> round of the proposed five-point Likert Scale four-round Delphi survey study (pp. 44-52); details of the proposed procedures for filing out the Survey Form are available (pp. 37-43).

- *Statics Survey Form B - 1<sup>st</sup> Round of Delphi - Likert Scale Questionnaire on the Importance of Various Statics Topics Selected for High School Engineering Curriculum (For the Calculus Portion)*: This Survey Form will be used in the 1<sup>st</sup> round of the proposed five-point Likert Scale four-round Delphi survey study (pp. 53-64).

For the subject of fluid mechanics (Appendix 3B):

- *Fluid Mechanics Topics List - Engineering Topics Mathematics and Science Pre-requisite Completion Chart for the Subject of Fluid Mechanics*: This List (pp. 14-86) also constitutes the outcome of this Research Project and will be submitted to professors at the University of Georgia for review and validation; similar proposed procedures could be used.
- *Fluid Mechanics Survey Form A - 1<sup>st</sup> Round of Delphi - Likert Scale Questionnaire on the Importance of Various Fluid Mechanics Topics Selected for High School Engineering Curriculum (For the Pre-calculus Portion)*: This Survey Form will be used in the 1<sup>st</sup> round of the proposed five-point Likert Scale four-round Delphi survey study (pp. 93-127); similar proposed procedures could be used.
- *Fluid Mechanics Survey Form B - 1<sup>st</sup> Round of Delphi - Likert Scale Questionnaire on the Importance of Various Fluid Mechanics Topics Selected for High School Engineering Curriculum (For the Calculus Portion)*: This Survey Form will be used in the 1<sup>st</sup> round of the proposed five-point Likert Scale four-round Delphi survey study (pp. 128-164); similar proposed procedures could be used.



Upon completion of such review and validation, necessary changes will be made to the above Statics and Fluid Mechanics Topics Lists in order to eliminate any possible technical errors or potential shortcomings due to lack of considerations for any particular pedagogic and academic conditions in the current K-12 system in the United States (particularly, in the State of Georgia). Upon completion of these necessary changes and the final approval by the above-mentioned University of Georgia professors, the above Statics and Fluid Mechanics Survey Forms A's and B's will be updated and technically ready for the first round of the proposed five-point Likert Scale survey. Next, these Survey Forms will be submitted to NCETE leader Dr. Kurt Becker at Utah State University as well as other appropriate authorities for a final approval.

#### *Delphi Survey with Participants*

Next, the above-mentioned Survey Forms could be presented to the following five groups of stakeholders in K-12 engineering and technology curriculum, who could be considered as experts in the field of engineering and technology education:

- Group 1 (University Engineering and Technology Faculty): To be selected among professors and Ph. D fellows in the universities participating in the National Center for Engineering and Technology Education program (i.e., University of Georgia, Utah State University, California State University Los Angeles, University of Minnesota, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Brigham Young University, Illinois State University, North Carolina A&T University, and University of Wisconsin Stout.), as well as from important institutions of engineering education, such as Georgia Institute of Technology, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, California Institute of Technology,

Virginia Institute of Technology, and members of engineering education related professional organizations, such as American Society for Engineering Education;

- Group 2 (University K-12 Engineering and Technology Education Faculty): To be selected among professors and Ph.D fellows in the universities participating in the above-listed National Center for Engineering and Technology Education program;
- Group 3 (University Undergraduate Senior-Year Engineering Students): To be selected randomly among senior-year undergraduate engineering students at the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, the University of Georgia, from the Mechanism, Civil, Electrical and other majors, at least 2 students per major, for a total of up to 10 student participants;
- Group 4 (K-12 technology and STEM Teachers and Administrators): To be selected among K-12 schools in Georgia, as well as California, Utah and other states if possible;
- Group 5 (Practicing Engineers and Technicians): To be selected among members of relevant professional associations, such as American Society of Mechanical Engineers, American Society of Civil Engineers and others.

Lists of the above-mentioned five Groups of Participants would be created based on pre-established selection criteria, which is beyond the scope of this Research Project.

**Explanation of Likert Scale**      **Grayout area**      **Likert Scale fill-in area**      **Comment area**

Table 9  
 Delphi - Likert Scale Questionnaire on the Importance of Various Statics Topics Selected for High School Engineering Curriculum

Engineering Subject: Statics						
Likert Scale (Score of Importance) Note: 1 → Totally Unimportant; 2 → Not So Important; 3 → Might Be Important; 4 → Important; 5 → Very Important						
Engineering Analytic Topics & Typical Formulas	Likert Scale (Score of Importance from Least to Most)					Comment
	1	2	3	4	5	
<b>Chapter 1: Introduction</b>						
1.1: What Is Mechanics?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
1.2: Fundamental Concepts and Principles $\vec{a} = \frac{\vec{F}}{m} \Rightarrow \vec{F} = m\vec{a}$ $\vec{F}_{12} = -\vec{F}_{21}$ $\vec{F} = G \frac{m_1 m_2}{r^2}$	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
1.3: Systems of Units	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
1.4: Conversion from One System of Units to Another	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
1.5: Method of Problem Solution	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
1.6: Numerical Accuracy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	

Figure 8. Five-point Likert Scale Delphi survey form.

*Completion and Statistic Analysis of Statics and Fluid Mechanics Survey Forms*

Gray-out rows under the five-point Likert Scale columns: As shown in Figure 8, there are topics of statics covered in sections of the selected textbook (Beer et al, 2004), which absolutely need to be included in any potentially viable high school appropriate statics course, in order to maintain the integrity of instructional sequence or to provide students with needed background information; this type of topics should be included anyway regardless of their perceived importance based on expert opinion. For this type of topics, the five-point Likert Scale space is grayed out.

Filing out the Survey Forms: The survey participants will be asked to (1) fill in one scale per item and to offer additional comments in the Comment column; and (2) rate the relative importance of each formula listed, with symbols and written notes, using the above-mentioned five-point Likert Scale and other criteria described in details in Appendix 3A, pages 37-43, or Appendix 3B, pages 87-92.

Statistical analysis: Upon collection of all Survey Forms at the end of each round of the four-round Delphi study, statistic analysis could be made on Likert Scale data to compute the means of scores of importance for each topic of statics as well as on the associate computational formulas. Comments will be analyzed and used for additional rounds of Likert Scale Delphi survey. The final results will be tabulated into lists of all topics of statics and fluid mechanics on the basis of their perceived importance; and such lists could be used as references for potential development of (1) high school appropriate statics and fluid mechanics curriculum, and (2) potential national and state performance standards for K-12 engineering curriculum in the subjects of statics and fluid mechanics.

Basic question for the survey: The above-mentioned Survey Forms would be addressing the question of the importance of particular statics and fluid mechanics topics, from the different perspectives of different groups of practitioners in engineering design and education, based on previously discussed five-point Likert Scale.

#### Developing Appropriate Pedagogic Strategy for K-12 Engineering Curriculum

##### *Differences between High School and College Students and Pedagogic Strategy for K-12 Engineering Curriculum*

It appears to be self-evident that substantial differences exist between high school students and college undergraduate students, and therefore, in order to develop the analytic and predictive abilities of high school students enrolled in engineering pathways, appropriate pedagogic strategy must be developed and improved. Compared to college students, high school students usually have lower degree of cognitive maturity and less

ability to understand complicated and abstract scientific concepts, and therefore, the following might be necessary for successful instruction of engineering analytic principles at high school level:

- Using plain English to explain abstract engineering principles with everyday analogy and concrete examples;
- Using videos, prototypes, and other physical and visual artifacts to demonstrate how engineering analytic principles work;
- Showing the interconnection among various types of engineering analytic principles, and comparing the similarities and differences among them (with concept maps, formulas sheets, etc.);
- Providing high school students with well-organized instructional materials appropriate to their age.

#### *Modernization of Engineering Pedagogy*

Project-Based Learning (PBL): This pedagogic model has been widely reported as a successful instrument for improving K-12 mathematics and science education. Previous experience by Sirinterlikci and Mativo (2005) indicated that secondary school students could handle engineering design activities in an inter-disciplinary setting, using a Project-Based Learning model. Sirinterlikci and Mativo's pedagogic experiment indicated that learning engineering design help high school students to increase interests in STEM and academic success (*Figure 9*).

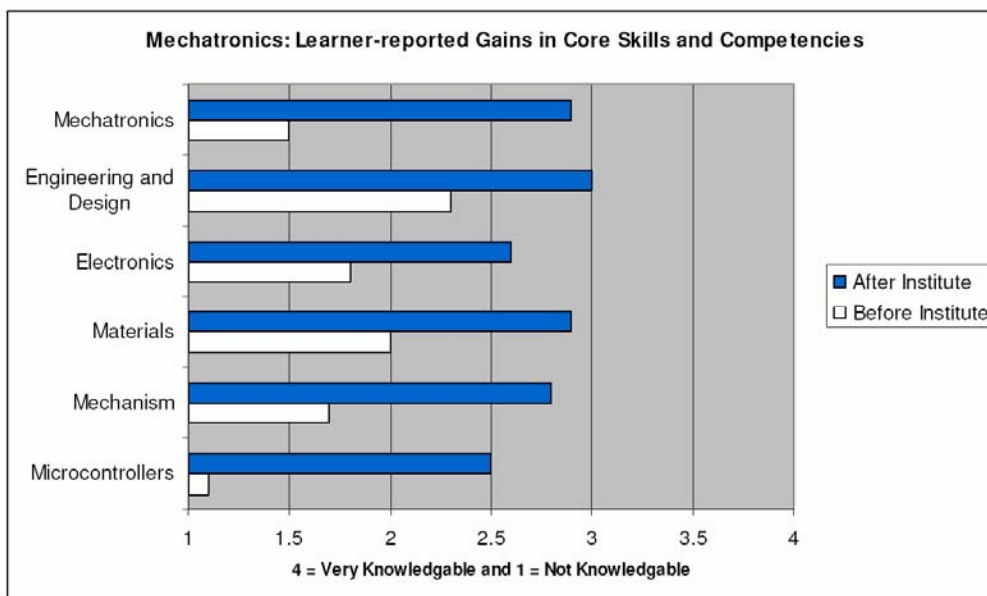


Figure 9. Project-Base Learning improves high school student's core STEM skills.

#### *Important Considerations to be Taken*

Means and ends: The aim of infusing engineering analytic and predictive principles and computational skills into a potentially viable K-12 engineering curriculum is NOT to make students instruments of computations, but to foster their real ability in innovative engineering design that is based on solid mastery of necessary analytic tools that will allow them to use generic engineering design approach to create real-world quality products and systems, which are appropriate to their age. From the perspective of pedagogic philosophy, this approach is inspired by the idea of “a unified curriculum framework for technology education” explore by Rojewski and Wicklein (1999).

Focus on problem-solving: The aim of this Research Project is NOT to encourage rote memorization of engineering analytic principles and computational formulas, or their applications in solving a few simple homework problems in the purely “analytic reduction”

model (although this is a necessary task), but to foster the real ability of solving real-world problems, which involve integration of engineering analytic principles and of course, computational formulas, from various subjects, into a “system thinking” model.

Understanding the nature of engineering: Engineering is essentially applied science (to be more specific, mathematics, physics and chemistry, and others); thus, what is needed is NOT to turn high school students into well-programmed testing robots, but to train them into potentially creative designers of innovative products and systems, who (1) understand the essentials of engineering design process; (2) possess solid mastery of the basic analytic and predictive principles and skills covered in the K-12 engineering curriculum; and (3) know how to independently explore new topics beyond those covered in the standard curriculum, to learn on their own and to locate knowledge and information. Therefore, Project-Based Learning would be a good model for systematically deliver well-organized and cohesively-related sets of engineering analytic principles and skills to high school students.

#### *The Three-Method Approach*

Digital revolution has brought tremendous changes to engineering education and practice, while traditional learning methods still apply. Using different methods to learn engineering analytic principles and skills would help consolidating the mastery of knowledge and skills. Under the general model of Project-Base Learning, three methods could be integrated in the instruction of engineering analytic principles and skills at high school or even university levels:

1. Traditional analysis and computations using formulas: This creates the essential knowledge base, and is a traditional component of STEM instruction.

2. Physical laboratory experiment: This helps understanding theoretical constructs through hands-on experience, and is traditionally a major component of STEM instruction.
3. Digital simulation: This is a must-have essential skill in today's real-world engineering practice, and this area of STEM instruction should be strengthened so as to better prepare students for future engineering careers.

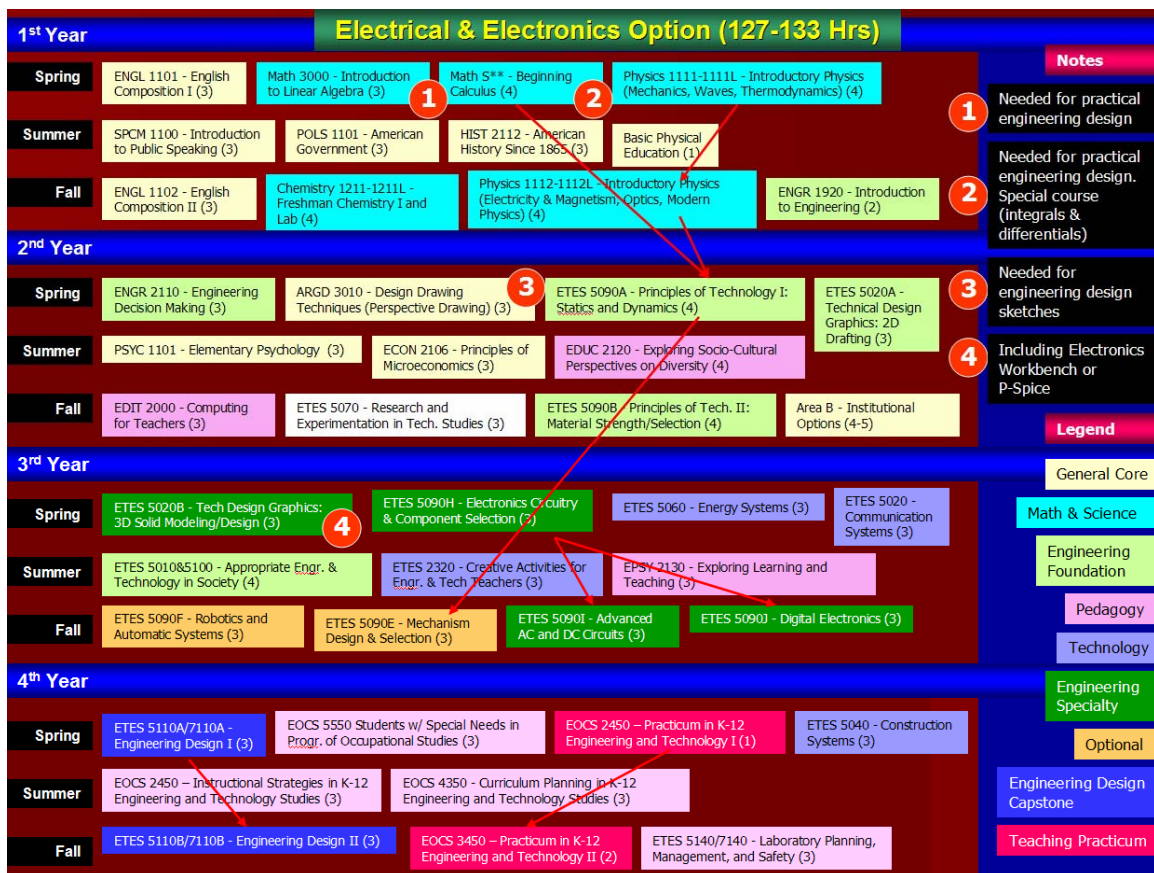


Figure 10. The Academic Flow Chart for the Electrical and Electronics Option of my previously presented Proposed Model for K-12 Engineering and Technology Teacher Education program.



PART SIX  
STRATEGIC VISION FOR ENGINEERING-ORIENTED  
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

*An Urgent Call for Farsighted and Long-term Strategic Thinking*

Many corporate and academic leaders, such as those mentioned in the *InnovateAmerica National Innovation Initiative Summit and Report* (Council of Competitiveness, 2005) believe in long-term strategy for educating the next generation of innovative talents in the United States; in the report, business and academic leaders are calling for American society and the United States Government to adopt many innovation-friendly changes including (1) educating next-generation of innovators; (2) rewarding long-term strategy; and (3) building world-class infrastructure; and they are asking this vital question: “What will America do? Will we plan and invest for the long term, rather than just the next quarter, putting in place the talent pool, innovation capital and infrastructure necessary for continuing success throughout the 21<sup>st</sup> century?” Dr. Molly Corbett Broad, former President of the University of North Carolina, and current President of the American Council on Education (since May 1, 2008) addressed “the decline of American students going into science and engineering, and the continuing poor representation of women and minorities in these fields,” pointing out that the problems were created long before students arrive at a university campus. Furthermore, the report indicates that “for America’s workers to engage productively in the global economy, they must be better prepared to succeed in the global skills race. That process begins with K-12 education. [...] For the future, the nation will need a workforce equipped with more

than literacy in reading, math and science. We need a whole generation with the capacities for creative thinking and for thriving in a collaborative culture. We need a class of workers who see problems as opportunities and understand that solutions are built from a range of ideas, skills and resources. However, there is little in the curriculum of even our best elementary and secondary schools that builds these skills” (Council of Competitiveness, 2005, p. 1; p. 8; p. 22; and p. 76).

My previously present *Proposed Model for Infusing Engineering Design into K-12 Curriculum* (Appendix 1), as well as this Research Project, are exactly aimed at preparing the next generation of innovative talents in the United States, through (1) long-term strategic planning; (2) well-coordinated efforts among schools, corporations, communities, and government agencies; (3) a streamlined STEM education process from K-12 through community colleges to four-year universities and beyond; and (4) a functional K-12 engineering and technology teacher education program that could allow future K-12 educators to be allow to work as both innovators and K-educators.

My vision for the streamlined STEM education process from K-12 through community colleges to four-year universities and beyond could be illustrated by *Figure 11* below.

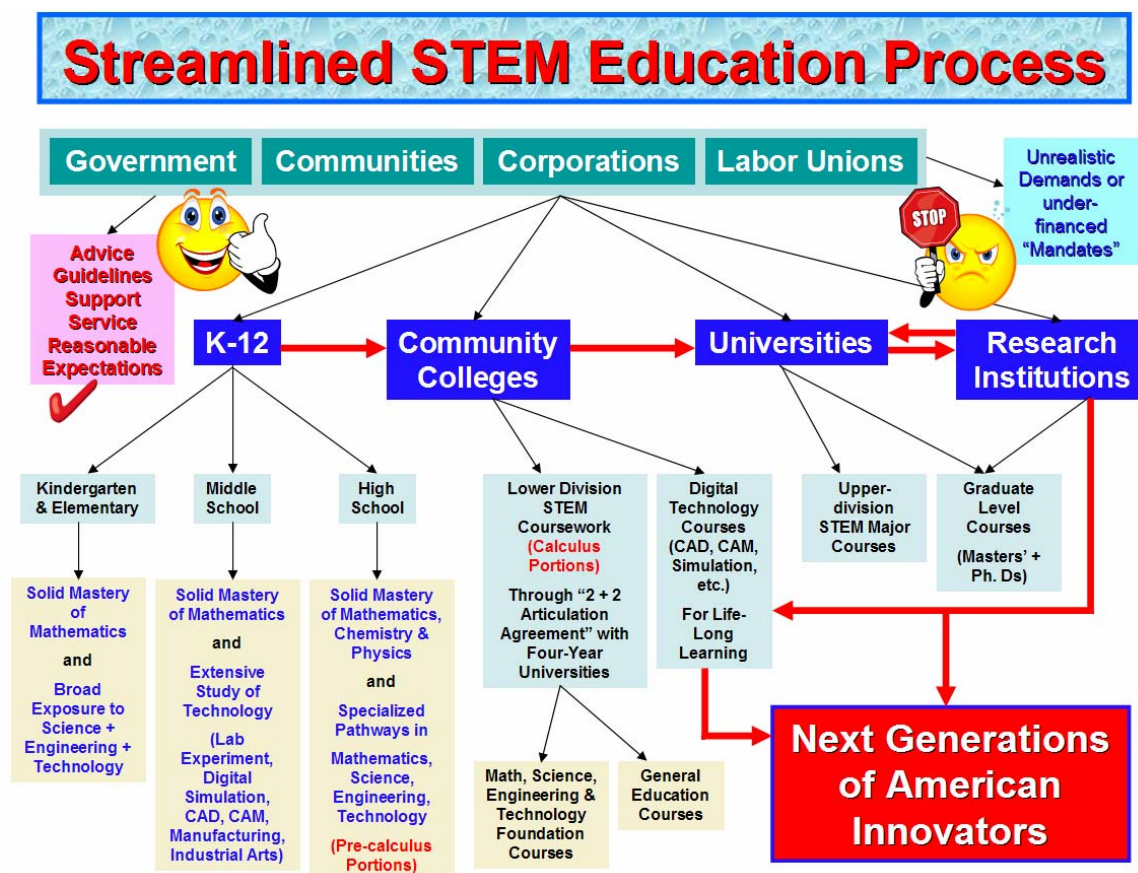


Figure 11. A streamlined vision for STEM education from K-12 through community colleges to universities and beyond.

*Strategic Vision for an Up to Beginning Calculus-Level K-12 Engineering & Technology Teachers' Professional Development*

The Vision statement: In my opinion, “future K-12 engineering and technology teacher education programs should be based on hard core engineering design incorporating (1) general technological literacy; (2) full sets of specific engineering analysis and prediction skills from well-connected courses; and (3) generic engineering design process, which are based on up to beginning calculus level mathematics and science foundations (physics and chemistry), and which could enable future K-12

engineering and technology educators to optimize high school students' engineering analytic skills and design ability; and is realistic and pragmatic in terms of matching K-12 students cognitive maturity levels incrementally, with strictly-defined differentiation of engineering design stages, plus flexible incorporation of all positive contributions from existing programs such as Project Lead The Way.”

Philosophical foundation of the vision: My Proposed Model reflects the American tradition of “Continuity + Change,” based on the philosophies of utilitarianism, pragmatism, progressivism and positivism, with deep respect for the time-proven engineering curricular development and pedagogic traditions and an open mind for necessary change. In addition, it seeks to incorporate the positive experience of K-12 engineering and technology educators from other Western Industrialized Democracies, such as Australia and Sweden (refer to Appendix 1 and Appendix 2A for details). This vision has been demonstrated by my previously presented *Proposed Model for Infusing Engineering Design into K-12 Curriculum* (Appendix 1), which has received positive encouragement from University of Georgia engineering and technology education professors (Drs. Robert Wicklein, John Mativo, Myra Womble, Sidney Thompson and David Gattie).

As shown in *Figures 1A, 1B* (pp. 4-5) and *Figure 10* (p. 88), my vision for engineering-oriented professional development for future K-12 engineering and technology educators, called “B.S. in K-12 Engineering and Technology Teacher Education Program,” has been formulated with sufficient details, down to the level of Academic Flow Charts for a four-year B.S. degree program with Options in Mechanical Design, Manufacturing, and Electrical & Electronics. This vision calls for (1) substantial

inclusion of up to beginning calculus level of engineering analytic principles and skills grouped into engineering foundation courses; (2) well-organized and cohesively-related “Option” courses which correspond to major courses in typical undergraduate engineering programs; (3) two multidisciplinary “capstone” senior design courses similar to typical “senior year design” courses under typical undergraduate engineering programs; (4) engineering specific K-12 pedagogic training courses; and (5) full set of college-level mathematics and science courses, including beginning calculus, linear algebra, physics (all topics from mechanical forces to optics, based on trigonometry, but could be changed to beginning calculus-based depending on curricular administrative arrangement or academic “politics”), and chemistry.

The advantages of the vision: This vision is essentially aimed at training a new generation of K-12 engineering and technology educators who can also play the role of practical engineers for industry, through a well-integrated program that link “applied engineering and technology” with K-12 appropriate “engineering and technology pedagogy” (or a “light version” of traditional engineering and technology program coupled with K-12 appropriate “engineering and technology pedagogy”). This vision is designed for training amphibious STEM talents with the abilities to (1) practice real-world engineering design and associated technology and (2) teach engineering design and associated technology to K-12 students. The professional development in this vision would likely satisfy the needs for future K-12 engineering and technology educators to receive comprehensive and systematic, logically structured and cohesively coordinated professional development, in both areas of engineering and technology, within the framework of four-year Bachelor of Science programs, instead of being offered sporadic

short-term training sessions focused on technology alone under the currently dominant model of professional development. Thus, it is a long-term vision aiming at strategic solution of America's chronic shortage in engineering graduates, not a short-term cosmetic change to the status quo.

### *Technical Details of the Vision*

Different teacher professional development models: Custer (2007) identified five major models of professional training that have been developed and used over the past half-century: (1) Curriculum-driven training; (2) Process-based; (3) Acculturation; (4) Graduate degree and (5) In-service; and indicated that (1) the curriculum-driven models offers the most promise for encouraging additional engineering content and process in grades K-12; (2) it has enjoyed success for the past ten years; and (3) projects such a Project-Lead the Way and Modular Technology Education have proven that this approach which focus heavily on engineering concepts is effective in improving teachers' knowledge, professional performance and attitude.

In my opinion, any model to be potentially developed will work as long as it is strictly structured to the high standards established by educational authorities, coherent and systemic; and as long as both conceptual and procedural knowledge are covered (although in general, my preference is to focus on conceptual knowledge). Professional development models must be coherent and conducted on a long-term basis. Burghardt and Hacker (p. 4, 2005) identified three essential elements for STEM professional development: (1) guided lesson plan design, implementation, feedback, and revision; (2) academic year implementation; and (3) peer review and learning communities. "It has become common knowledge that the 'one-shot' workshop is not an effective approach for

teacher learning. Professional development that is sustained over time is more closely linked to improved student learning than short term, one time experiences (Birman, Desimone, Porter, & Garet, 2000, p. 3).

A practical balance between “process-oriented engineering skills” and “core engineering concepts”: In product design, “form follows function;” analogically transposing this principle onto engineering oriented high school teachers’ professional development, the “form” is the “process-oriented engineering skills,” while “function” is “core engineering concepts”. In mathematics and science professional development, teachers must complete a full set of relevant courses, not just a few sporadic and disconnected training sessions. Mastery of the “core engineering concepts” allows future high school engineering and technology teachers to possess sufficient subject-specific knowledge to teach students, and demands great amount of pre-service training time. Mastery of “process-oriented engineering skills,” on the other hand, requires years of practice in classroom teaching,; and generally could not be achieved within a short period of training that lasts 2 weeks or even 2 or more semester-long courses in undergraduate teacher preparatory programs. Mastery of enough content knowledge or core principles is very important in the successful implementation of educational programs. Without content knowledge, pedagogic process is meaningless. Content knowledge is like the wine while pedagogic process (a lesson plan, assessment method checklist, homework handout and assessment rubric, etc.) is like the bottle that is used to store wine and prevent it from getting lost. Both form a dialectic and symbiotic relationship. Burghardt and Hacker (n.d., p. 4) also concluded that “an important consideration in the design of the lesson plan is that science, engineering, and technology teachers are responsible for

teaching and their students are responsible for learning mathematics concepts. This is a non-trivial consideration and one that requires support of the science, engineering, and technology teachers in terms of math content and pedagogy.” This is very true.

Mathematics is used in the construction of computational formulas for every branch of science and engineering; thus, relevant mathematics-based computational formulas should be covered along with engineering analytic and predictive principles.

Teachers need to first master enough core concepts in order to translate them into effective teaching. To illustrate this point, Mundry (n.d., p. 3) identified some “good professional development programs” which provide teachers with experiences over time that are designed to do all of the following: (1) build knowledge (e.g., engaging in science investigations as learners, using science trade books in a study group, partnerships with scientists); (2) translate knowledge into practice (e.g., lesson design, examining classroom cases, learning misconceptions students have about content); (3) practice teaching (e.g., demonstration lessons, coaching from experienced teacher); and (4) reflect on practice (e.g., examine student work, observe videotapes of lessons). This is a workable sequence that generations of teachers have been using.

A needed focus on structural coherence of professional development for future K-12 engineering and technology teachers: Garet et al (2001, p. 927) indicated that one of the core features of professional development “concerns the extent to which professional development activities are perceived by teachers to be a part of a coherent program of teacher learning. Professional development for teachers is frequently criticized on the ground that the activities are disconnected from one another - in other words, individual activities do not form part of a coherent program of teacher learning and development.”



In my opinion which falls in line with Caret et al's argument, simply adding a few topics of engineering design using commercial or non-profit programs would not fundamentally improve engineering education in the United States. Neither old-fashioned "general technological literacy," nor its cosmetic remodeling as a "pre-engineering pipeline" which in practical terms, means strengthening K-12 mathematics and science with very limited inclusion of engineering design project, will address United States' need for innovative engineers and scientists in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century of Globalization. Switching to a hard core K-12 engineering and technology curriculum could be regarded as necessary. However, under this new paradigm, existing programs such as Project Lead the Way should continue to operate even to a greater scope, although necessary modifications at technical level might need to be explored, especially in terms of cohesively infusion of engineering analytic principles and skills into high school engineering design projects. This Research Project is to lay the ground work for such infusion.

Personnel or recruitment issues: In my opinion, the focus of engineering professional development should be placed on education, recruitment and development of engineering and technology education teachers, with a fundamentally reformed program, rather than being satisfied with a half or even quarter measure of sporadic "engineering design training session" of technology teachers, or relying on part-time employment of practicing or retired engineers in K-12 classrooms (these are unfortunately practiced up to this day. They sound "economical" in pure financial sense, but so far did not lead to substantial increase of domestic students' engineering enrollment in the United States). Engineering and technology education for K-12 students, in my opinion, should not be regarded as a tax burden, but rather as a far-sighted and long-term social investment; and

the principle of short-term cost-saving does NOT apply here; rather, the principle of long-term social and technological benefit should be embraced (we should always guard ourselves against being “penny-wise and pound foolish”). Science and mathematics teachers could play a subsidiary role; but they are already overburdened with teaching these tough subjects; and it is TOTALLY inappropriate to depend on them to teach engineering design (except that appropriate topics of engineering could be inserted into mathematics and science courses, ONLY as extra learning materials). Any extra expectation would NOT be sustainable; it would even be disturbing to the already fragile academic performance environment in these fields (to be honest, the performance in mathematics and science of American K-12 students are no longer the highest among Western Industrialized Democracies). As the Council of Competitiveness report pointed out, “The mediocre performance of American students on international assessments in science and math is proof enough that elementary and secondary schools are not making the grade. One of the worrying trends is that performance actually declines as our students progress through school. In the 4<sup>th</sup> grade, U.S. students score above the international average in math and near first in science. By 8<sup>th</sup> grade, they score below the international average in math and only slightly above it in science. By 12<sup>th</sup> grade, U.S. students are near the bottom of a 49-country survey in both math and science, outperforming only Cyprus and South Africa.” (2005, p. 76). Since the publication of the report, several years has passed; but the situation has not dramatically changed yet, either for mathematics and science education, or for engineering and technology curriculum, in the K-12 systems in the United States; thus, it is time for American educators to think about meaningful, realistic and innovative new strategies.

We are living in “a new era where the United States no longer has a comfortable lead in science, technology, and innovation [...] Though scientists and engineers make up less than five percent of the population, they create up to fifty percent of our gross domestic product [...] If present trends continue, 90% of all the world’s scientists and engineers will be living in Asia by 2010” (Berrett, n.d.). The need for such social investment is fast becoming an emergency. We really have no time to be employing half-measures and to save pennies on K-12 engineering and technology education.

Recruiting engineering graduates or retired engineers to teach high school students are not great options. American industries are already in shortage of engineers; schools should serve industry needs, NOT compete with them. Engineering graduates or retired engineers surely have good engineering skill sets and know the ins and outs of professional practices; but their knowledge and practices are usually limited to certain areas of engineering; and they generally are not trained in K-12 pedagogy. Thus, they could serve K-12 curriculum as consultants or substitute teachers or teacher assistants, but NOT as regular K-12 engineering and technology educators.

#### *Professional Development for Future K-12 Engineering and Technology Teachers*

My previously presented *Proposed Model for Infusing Engineering Design into K-12 Curriculum* (Appendix 1) has been clearly divided into four stages, with each stage requiring different types of teacher’s professional development, which correspond to different characteristic of engineering and technology knowledge content and creative engineering design process:

1. Kindergarten and elementary school (Grades K-5): At this stage, students would be exposed to a wide variety of science, engineering and technology

projects through a variety of pedagogic methods such as educational entertainment (watching video, hands-on activities, LEGO and K'NEX projects, etc.), while learning basic mathematics skills (four operations, measurements, and others), and to creative and conceptual design of “science fiction” types. Teachers’ professional development: Current kindergarten to elementary level teachers previously trained under traditional teacher education programs would be able to handle both academic knowledge content and design process at this stage, as long as appropriate instructional materials are provided, and well-designed training sessions are offered. The Bachelor of Science in K-12 Engineering and Technology Teacher Education program developed under my previously presented Proposed Model (Appendix A1) has also addressed this issue with a course titled Creative Activities for Engineering and Technology Teachers (3 credit hours, for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year). This part of the professional development and instructional content delivery could be implemented immediately, without substantial modification of the current programs.

2. Middle School (Grades 6-8): At this stage, students would learn how to conduct engineering and technology experiments and to use such experiments as a means of trial-and-error based technology design process, as well as to use traditional and modern technology as applications of engineering, such as computer-aided-design (CAD), computer-aided manufacturing (CAM), wood, plastic and metal working processes, etc., in technology design, experiment and fabrication (or construction or manufacturing). Teachers’ professional

development: Current middle and high school teachers previously trained in mathematics, science (physics and chemistry), and technology education (under the existing programs) should be able to handle both academic knowledge content and design process at this stage, as long as appropriate instructional materials are provided, and well-designed training sessions are offered. The Bachelor of Science in K-12 Engineering and Technology Teacher Education program developed under my previously presented Proposed Model (Appendix 1) has also addressed this issue. This part of the professional development and instructional content delivery could be implemented immediately, without substantial modification of the current programs.

3. High school (Grades 9-11): At this stage, students would learn hard-core pre-calculus level engineering analytic principles and skills, and explore simple engineering design projects using these analytic principles and skills with the “Analytic Reduction” model of engineering design process, as well as engineering-related technology skills such as CAD and CAM. Teachers’ professional development: Existing K-12 technology teacher education programs so far has NOT adequately prepare high school technology teachers to handle either academic knowledge content or design process to be implemented at this stage; and in my opinion, no short-term training session would adequately address this problem. The implementation of the Bachelor of Science in K-12 Engineering and Technology Teacher Education program

developed under my previously presented Proposed Model (Appendix A1) would adequately address this issue.

4. High School Graduation Year (Grade 12): In this final year of high school, students would be expected to engage in moderately complex engineering design project using “System Thinking” model of engineering design.

Teachers’ professional development: Like in stage 3, the implementation of the Bachelor of Science in K-12 Engineering and Technology Teacher Education program developed under my previously presented Proposed Model (Appendix A1) would adequately address this issue. This part of the professional development and instructional content delivery could be implemented once the first groups of the proposed future Bachelors of Science in K-12 Engineering and Technology Teacher Education program graduates from their respective universities.

### *Curricular Development*

Relying on the strength of current K-12 technology curriculum developers: Many engineering analytic principles and predictive computational skills have been incorporated into existing K-12 engineering and technology curriculums, by non-profit K-12 curriculum developers such as Project Lead the Way, Engineering by Design and many others. Some of these programs are very reasonably priced. For example, according to the organization’s presentation during ITEA 2009 Conference held on March 26-28 in Louisville, Kentucky, Engineering by Design (developed by International Technology Education Association, <http://www.iteaconnect.org/EbD/ebd.htm>) charges each participating State in the United States only \$22,000 per years regardless of the number

of participating high schools, for using its instructional materials (the consumables, i.e., laboratory materials, are to be purchased separately from other vendors; and some of them are available in dollar stores).

Providing guidelines is the only role for public institution to play: The major shortcoming of these programs is that they are more-or-less based on “trial-and-error” technology design process, rather than on solid engineering analytic principles and formula-based predictive computations. Nevertheless, once a Recommended List of High School Appropriate Engineering Topics is completed as an extension to this Research Project, the List could be made available to existing K-12 Engineering and technology curriculum developers as reference for the development of a more comprehensive set of high school engineering lessons based on solid engineering analytic and predictive skills. Therefore, there is practically no need to create a new curricular development structure.

“Continuity + Change:” In terms of professional development, current generation of teachers educated under the existing K-12 technology education programs should continue teaching K-8 technology courses with some short-term professional training sessions. For the future, the Bachelor of Science in K-12 Engineering and Technology Teacher Education program, developed under my previously presented Proposed Model (Appendix 1) could be considered as an initial framework for preparing next generation of K-12 Engineering and Technology Curriculum teachers to teach all future K-12 engineering and technology courses.

Budgetary impact: Changes to be implemented are limited to the curricular structure of the current K-12 technology programs, which have been to a large degree implemented in Utah State University’s B.S. degree in Engineering and Technology

Education (T&E in STEM) for Fall 2009; therefore, in terms of long-term budgetary matter, there would be no need to substantially increase K-12 technology teacher training budget beyond the current level.

This Research Project could contribute to the professional development of future K-12 engineering and technology educators, in terms of defining the necessary engineering analytic and predictive principles and computational skills to be included in (1) a viable K-12 engineering curriculum; and (2) a viable K-12 engineering and technology teacher education program, which serves the needs of the future K-12 engineering curriculum.



## PART SEVEN

### CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

#### The Potential Contribution of this Research Project

Under the general theme of systematically infusing engineering analytic and predictive principles and skills into a potentially viable future K-12 engineering education, four major topics for infusing engineering analytic knowledge content into K-12 curriculum have been explored in this Research Project.

1. Analysis of K-12 STEM instruction (Part Three, pp. 19-54): This Research Project has presented an analysis of the mathematics and science learning of K-12 students in Georgia, at each grade level, as mandated by Georgia Performance Standards, in terms of their relevance to the goal of infusing engineering analytic and predictive principles and computation skills into a potentially viable K-12 engineering curriculum (concentrated at high school level), for the most important engineering foundation subjects. This analysis has been organized into tables that could be used to determine the necessary preparation in mathematics and science pre-requisites at each grade level throughout the entire K-12 curriculum, which is vital for a rational and scientific determination of the appropriateness of selected engineering analytic and predictive principles and computational skills for instruction at each grade level (Part Three, pp. 19-54).

2. Selection of K-12 appropriate statics and fluid mechanics topics and proposed strategies of their infusion into a potentially viable K-12 curriculum (Part Four, pp. 55-60): This Research Project has presented an analysis of all topics of statics and fluid mechanics covered in two popular undergraduate engineering textbooks (Beer et al, 2004, and Munson et al, 2006), in terms of their required mastery of (1) mathematics skills (for carrying out predictive computation); and (2) physics and/or chemistry principles (for understanding the underlying scientific concepts). This analysis has led to (1) the division of all relevant statics and fluid mechanics topics into pre-calculus and calculus-related portions; and (2) the initial determination of the appropriateness of these topics for either a focused high school subject of study at 9<sup>th</sup> Grade, or for incorporation into pre-9<sup>th</sup> Grade science coursework or into post-9<sup>th</sup> Grade AP Calculus coursework, under the “integrative STEM” and Problem-Based Learning (PBL) pedagogic models. In both subjects of statics and fluid mechanics, it is found that over 50% of course content traditionally taught at university lower-division level could be downloaded to 9<sup>th</sup> Grade at high school. The method of analysis used in this Research Project could be used again in the similar analysis on other foundation engineering subjects (i.e., dynamics, strength of materials, thermodynamics, heat transfer, and engineering decision-making), or engineering major subjects (such as mechanism design). Materials for these additional subjects are ready for processing, as an extension to this Research Project.

3. Proposed training in engineering-related calculus skills: This Research Project has presented a discussion of the potential development of practical short-term training sessions on calculus skills relevant to high school engineering curriculum, which could allow high school students at 9<sup>th</sup> Grade to (1) start learning the very basics of calculus, an important branch of mathematics that usually look “mystic” and “overwhelming” to average students; and (2) start exploring some important calculus-based engineering analytic principles and computational methods. As explained in Part Five (pp. 72-73), this is a feasible suggestion.
4. Professional development of future K-12 engineering and technology teachers (Part Six, pp. 88-97): The vision presented in this Research Project calls for a balance between “process-oriented engineering skills” and “core engineering concepts,” with a new focus on systematic and cohesive incorporation of engineering analytic and predictive principles and skills as a solid foundation for a potentially viable model for K-12 engineering and technology teachers’ professional development.

### Recommendations for Further Study

To make a meaningful contribution to the implementation of a potentially viable K-12 engineering and technology curriculum based on analytic prediction (instead of trial-and-error), further research are recommended; and these would constitute the 5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> Major Thrusts of American scholars at the University of Georgia and other institutions

in the endeavors to improve K-12 engineering and technology education (*Figure 12*, p. 107):

- 5<sup>th</sup> Major Thrust (Extension): High school appropriate topics on engineering analytic principles and computational skills for additional subjects will be identified, using the same methods and criteria as in this Research Project; these subjects correspond to additional five of the nine commonly shared undergraduate lower-division engineering foundation courses among various engineering programs offered at the University of Georgia (or in many other universities), listed on Table 1 (p. 20), plus two important courses that are vital to engineering design of products and systems. The progress already made in the selection of high school appropriate engineering analytic and predictive principles and skills are explained as follows:
  - No need for additional work:
    - ENGR 1120 Graphics & Design: This course involves very little analytic and predictive principles and skills (generally limited to calculations of lengths, areas, angles and volumes, etc., which are more mathematics than engineering); and has been included into high school curriculum for many years.
    - ENGR 2120 Statics: High school appropriate engineering analytic principles and skills related to this subject have been already selected in this Research Project.

- ENGR 3160 Fluid Mechanics: High school appropriate engineering analytic principles and skills related to this subject have been already selected in this Research Project.
- ENGR 2920 Electrical Circuits: This subject has been extensively and cohesively included in high school engineering and technology curriculum for many years.
- Need additional work: Various quantities of engineering analytic and predictive principles and skills from the following courses have been taught at high schools, but not extensively or cohesively. Thus, various amounts of works need to be done. This work could be completed by the end of 2009 if support is available.

The five commonly shared undergraduate engineering foundation courses listed on Table 1 (p. 20):

- ENGR 2130 Dynamics.
- ENGR 2140 Strength of Materials.
- ENGR 3140 Thermodynamics.
- ENGR 3150 Heat Transfer.
- ENGR 2110 Engineering Decision Making.

The two important courses that are vital to engineering design of products and systems:

- Material Science.
- Mechanical Design.

- 6<sup>th</sup> Major Thrust: Five-point Likert Scale four-round Delphi survey study for collection of expert opinions on the various degrees of importance for various engineering analytic principles could be conducted, upon approval of NCETE leadership;
- 7<sup>th</sup> Major Thrust: An “official list of K-12 Appropriate Engineering Analytic Principles and Computational Skills” could be established, upon statistical analysis of feedbacks from the above-mentioned five-point Likert Scale four-round Delphi survey study;
- 8<sup>th</sup> Major Thrust: National or state performance standards for K-12 engineering and technology education could be eventually developed to incorporate (1) specific analytic principles and computational skills for various subjects, and (2) generic engineering design process. This could be a teamwork by many stakeholders across the United States;
- 9<sup>th</sup> Major Thrust (the Final): Additional high school appropriate engineering curriculum and instructional materials could be developed by various existing developers, using as reference or guidelines, the “official list” to be created in the 7<sup>th</sup> Major Thrust, and the national or state performance standards to be developed in the 8<sup>th</sup> Major Thrust. In addition, pedagogic experiments could be conducted for the development of functional models of K-12 engineering and technology pedagogy.

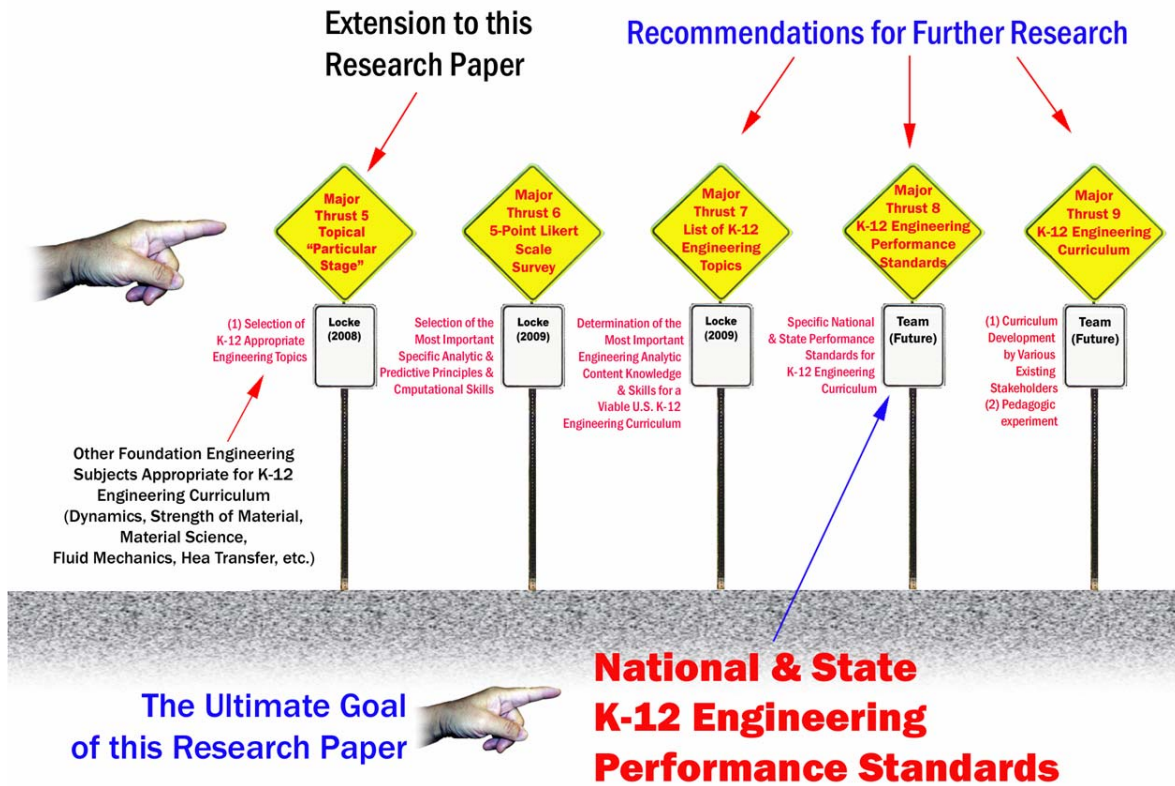


Figure 12. Recommended additional research.

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