

REPORT FOR THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

University Senate Committee: Academic Policies Committee

Brief History of Issue - why the issue is being considered:

The Materials Science and Engineering program is requesting: the establishment of an academic department: Department of Materials Science and Biomedical Engineering and a change to the name of the program/department from “Materials Science and Engineering” to “Materials Science and Biomedical Engineering” for the next possible catalog. The primary rationale for this change is the creation/offering of Materials Science (Mat Sci) major (in 2009), and the Materials Science and Engineering (MS&E) major (in 2016), and now creation of a Biomedical Engineering (BME) major (approved in 2019, accepting students in fall, 2021). Establishment of the department would aid in both student and faculty recruitment; align the current program with other academic units of similar size and scope; enhance communication with outside stakeholder. The renaming better captures the mission and nature of the unit.

Points Discussed by Committee:

1. Distinctiveness of proposed department and collaborative nature of the Materials Science and Engineering Center.
2. Impact and/or concerns related to shared governance processes (i.e. DPC, DEP, academic affairs reporting responsibilities).

Pros of Recommendation:

Supported by faculty in the Materials Science & Engineering program. Logical next step with the creation of the Biomedical Engineering major that will begin accepting students in fall 2021

Cons of Recommendation:

none

Technology/Human Resource Impact:

None

Committee Recommendation:

The committee approved the establishment of the academic department: Department of Materials Science and Biomedical Engineering; and a name change of the program/department from “Materials Science and Engineering” to “Materials Science and Biomedical Engineering” for the next possible catalog.

MOTION FOR THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

The University Senate Committee: Academic Policies Committee

by a vote of 6 for to 0 against on March 31, 2020 (Date)

Recommends that:

The establishment of the academic department: Department of Materials Science and Biomedical Engineering; and a name change of the program/department from “Materials Science and Engineering” to “Materials Science and Biomedical Engineering” for the next possible catalog, starting 2020-2021 AY.

Implementation Date: 20/21 catalog

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair of the Committee

Send to: University Senate Office