

**PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING TO THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING**

**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Board of Governors approve the change in title of the Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering (BSEE) to the Bachelor of Science in Electrical and Computer Engineering (BSECE), effective Fall 2022.

**Background**

Electrical, electronic, and computer systems are becoming intertwined more than ever before. Examples are found in emerging technologies such as the internet of things, cyber-physical systems, new robotics applications, machine vision, augmented reality, 5G/6G wireless, complex systems-on-chip, self-driving cars, artificial intelligence, and machine learning systems, just to name a few. In addition, the new degree name is unique amongst Michigan Universities and will give our students an edge.

The name change and the improvements have been discussed at length and put forward in a motion during the department's last faculty meeting held on May 11, 2021, and were voted on by a secret ballot. The motion carried with an overwhelming majority of the faculty vote. ECE faculty strongly believe that the new name and the newly revised curriculum will serve our students better and provide them with the skill sets that are timely and relevant as foreseen by current trends and future directions in the industry.

The proposed change will require some changes and modifications to the department curriculum to meet the ABET requirements for an ECE degree. The newly revised curriculum will require 131 credit hours for graduation, increasing 5 credit hours from the current 126. In short, adding five credits to the existing EE program with a few changes in requirements will make the WSU ECE department unique to Michigan. It will add substantial value to the degree and is well supported by the faculty and the department's Industrial Advisory Board.

In implementing the proposed change, we will give students currently in the EE program the option to complete the program as BSEE and provide them with the opportunity to switch to the new program if they so desire.

**Approvals**

The proposal was approved by the Electrical Engineering faculty, the College of Engineering Academic Operations Committee, the Dean of the College of Engineering, and the Provost.