ACADEMIC SENATE
OF
CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY
San Luis Obispo, California

Background statement: The faculty of the Metallurgical Engineering Department, as part of the 1988-90 catalog cycle, has unanimously requested a departmental name change to Metallurgical and Materials Engineering. Formerly this would have been accomplished by concurrence of the school dean and approval of the Vice President for Academic Affairs (VPAA). In the new Cal Poly spirit of collegiality, however, the VPAA has requested that the Academic Senate also advise him in this matter. The department’s reasons for requesting this name change are well-summarized in the attached section of a memo from the department head to Glenn Irvin dated September 4, 1987.

AS-258-87/Met

RESOLUTION ON
DEPARTMENTAL NAME CHANGE

WHEREAS, The name “Metallurgical and Materials Engineering” reflects the nature of a field evolving from pure metallurgical engineering to engineering practice involving all classes of materials—metals, ceramics, polymers, and composites; and

WHEREAS, The Cal Poly program in this field has been altered to reflect this evolution; and

WHEREAS, The proposed name change more accurately reflects the 1988-90 curriculum for the department as approved by the Academic Senate; and

WHEREAS, The faculty of the Metallurgical Engineering Department unanimously supports this name change; therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate endorses the proposed name change for the Metallurgical Engineering Department to “Metallurgical and Materials Engineering.”

Proposed By: Metallurgical Engineering Department
On: September 29, 1987
Memorandum

To: Glenn Irvin, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs
   Date: September 4, 1987

From: Robert Heidersbach, Head Metallurgical Engineering

Subject: Response to Review of 1988-90 Catalog Proposals

This memo is in response to your memo dated August 18, 1987, on the same subject. Answers below are keyed to the numbered paragraphs in your memo.

1. **Degree name change from Metallurgical Engineering to Metallurgical and Materials Engineering.** Courses which discuss nonmetallic materials include the following:

   Met 306  Materials Engineering
   Met 341  Materials Engineering Laboratory
   Met 301  Physical Properties of Materials
   Met 324  Materials Inspection
   Met 325  Polymers and Composites
   Met 326  Failure Analysis
   Met 424  Ceramic Materials
   Met 426  Fracture of Materials
   Met 441/2/3 Advanced Materials Laboratory

Your memorandum asked for a statement from ABET indicating they are supportive of the degree name change. Our proposal (Met 2/18/87, page 2) identified fourteen ABET-accredited schools with similar names. On September 3, 1987, I was able to contact Dr. G. Liedl, Materials Engineering, Purdue University. Dr. Liedl is the Chairman of the Education and Professional Affairs Committee of TMS-AIME, which has responsibility for accrediting all materials programs. He stated that TMS-AIME would never give a written statement on the name of a program, but he did agree to be quoted as follows:

"ABET is concerned with the evaluation of programs and it is the modifications in the title of the program that determines which set of criteria to use. The name of the department is not a factor. It is the trend in the country to go into materials programs at the expense of metallurgical or other programs. This is the evolution which is going on today in the growing number of programs across the country. From that viewpoint the change of the department title is reflective of the evolutionary change in the field."
Memorandum

To: Peter Y. Lee, Interim Dean
    School of Engineering

RECEIVED

NOV 3 1987

Academic Senate

From: Malcolm W. Wilson
    Vice President for Academic Affairs

Subject: Department Name Change - Metallurgical Engineering

Based upon the request of the Department and the endorsement of the Academic Senate, I am hereby approving the name change of the Metallurgical Engineering Department to Metallurgical and Materials Engineering. It is my understanding that the request to change the degree name will be submitted to the Chancellor's Office by the Academic Programs Office. You are authorized to use the department name change at the same time as implementation of the degree name change.