ACADEMIC SENATE
of
CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY
San Luis Obispo, CA

AS-634-05

RESOLUTION TO
CHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE STATUS FOR
GENERAL ENGINEERING PROGRAM

WHEREAS, The General Engineering program is presently an academic unit located in the
College of Engineering; and

WHEREAS, A status change from General Engineering program to Biomedical and General
Engineering Department is being proposed; and

WHEREAS, This change is consistent with and necessary for the development of the Senate
approved Biomedical Engineering baccalaureate degree granting program in the
College of Engineering; and

WHEREAS, The functional modifications in changing to department status are: a change in the
title for the program "coordinator" to "department chair", the reassignment of
faculty internal to the college, and the hiring of two new faculty. These are all
changes internal to the college; and

WHEREAS, The funding necessary to carry out these changes has been identified and made
available from funds within the College of Engineering; and

WHEREAS, Said change in status has been approved by the College of Engineering (CENG)
department chairs, CENG College Council, CENG Curriculum Committee,
CENG Dean, and is being concurrently reviewed by the Academic Deans'
Council; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Cal Poly endorse the change from General
Engineering program, as an academic unit, to the academic department of
Biomedical and General Engineering Department.

Proposed by: College of Engineering
Date: April 8, 2005
As a follow-up to an e-mail communication from Bonnie Long today, enclosed is a formal request from Dr. Daniel Walsh, Associate Dean of the College of Engineering, providing justification for his request to form the Biomedical and General Engineering Department. This request has the endorsement of Dr. Peter Lee, Dean of the College of Engineering. The formation of this department request is being made following the Academic Senate and campus approval of the establishment of the Bachelor of Science degree program in Biomedical Engineering. That request is currently at the CSU Chancellor's Office for review. The department will house two distinct degree programs that are not necessarily closely related, i.e., Biomedical Engineering and General Engineering. In addition, the Academic Deans' Council has endorsed the formation of this department, yesterday, April 11.

I would appreciate it if the Academic Senate would review this request as soon as possible this quarter.

Thank you, and should you have any questions regarding this issue, please do not hesitate to contact Dan Walsh directly.

Enclosure
MEMORANDUM

To: Robert Detweiler, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
And
David Hannings, Chair, Academic Senate

Date: April 5, 2005

Via: David Conn, Vice Provost, Academic Programs

Via: Dean's Council

Via: Peter Lee,
Dean, CENG

From: Dan Walsh,
Associate Dean, CENG

Subject: Formation of the "Biomedical and General Engineering Department"

This is a request to change General Engineering Program to the Biomedical and General Engineering Department. The department will administer two majors (Biomedical Engineering with 170 students and General Engineering with 120 students). It will have faculty and staff, an office suite, autonomous academic and personnel review procedures, and will administer several hundred thousand dollars in grants and endowments.

This change in status is supported by the College of Engineering (CENG) Department Chairs, CENG College Council, CENG Curriculum Committee, CENG Dean, and will be reviewed by the Academic Senate and by the Academic Deans' Council.

This change is supported by the College because Biomedical Engineering and General Engineering have outgrown their informal structure. At this juncture, a wealth of industrial demand, coupled with student and faculty interests, have created an intellectual engine that requires a departmental structure to support its students. Furthermore, the University has been directed to grow and the College has chosen Biomedical Engineering as one of several focus areas for this growth. The proposed structure for Biomedical Engineering will provide for the infrastructure to forge an even more successful program.

The functional modifications in changing to department status include a change in the title for the program "coordinator" to "department chair", the reassignment of faculty internal to the college, and the hiring of two new faculty. All changes are internal to the College, and the
funding necessary to carry out these changes have been identified and made available from funds within the College of Engineering.
To: David Hannings  
Chair, Academic Senate  

Date: June 9, 2005  

From: Warren J. Baker  
President  

Copies: R. Detweiler, D. Conn, P. Lee, D. Walsh  

Subject: Response to Academic Senate Resolution AS-634-05  
Resolution to Change Administrative Status for General Engineering Program  

It is my pleasure to approve the above-subject Resolution. This Resolution acknowledges the recent approval of the Biomedical Engineering baccalaureate degree program and provides for the formal modification in changing the status of the General Engineering Program to a formal departmental administrative structure to be known as the Biomedical and General Engineering Department. In addition to the Senate’s endorsement of this administrative change, the Academic Deans’ Council endorsed the proposal at its April 2005, meeting and Interim Provost Robert Detweiler concurs. By copy of this memorandum, I am notifying Dean Peter Lee of my approval with an effective date of June 20, 2005 (Summer Quarter 2005).

Please extend my thanks to the Senate for its prompt attention to this important matter for the College of Engineering and the University.