

Resolution of the Faculty Senate Endorsing the Faculty Senate Academic Planning & Assessment Committee Recommendation on the Proposal of Establishing a Department Of Engineering Education

To: The UB Faculty Senate

From: The Faculty Senate Academic Planning & Assessment Committee

Date Proposed to FSEC: November 29, 2017

First Reading to the Faculty Senate: December 12, 2017

Second Reading to the Faculty Senate: February 20, 2018

Approved by the Faculty Senate:

Effective Date:

Whereas, the Faculty Senate Academic Planning and Assessment Committee has considered the PROPOSAL FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF A DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING EDUCATION in The School of Engineering and Applied Sciences.

Whereas, in our October 20TH and November17TH 2017 meetings, we discussed the Proposal and reviewed similar programs in peer institutions. Our initial concerns were about full departmental status (rather than program or center status), staffing, and coordination with the Graduate School of Education.

Whereas, we communicated our reservations to Dean Liesl Folks of SEAS who responded straightforwardly to our concerns, vigorously arguing that this is a growing and developing field and one of current funding opportunity and that a department structure will create the highest visibility and allow recruitment of the best faculty and students. The hiring plan to recruit four tenure-track experts and move eight current clinical lines into the department will be further expanded and supported also with current faculty and faculty from the School of Education.

Whereas, Dean Rosenblith of the Graduate School of Education sent us a full-support Memorandum on November 14th, offering joint interest and faculty who can serve on committees for graduate students.

Whereas, recognizing the university-wide need to strengthen the synergy between cutting-edge educational research and cutting-edge subject knowledge to improve teaching across all areas, the Committee endorses establishing a Department of Engineering Education, with strong encouragement to put in place administrative structures that support and ensure such synergy between the School of Engineering and

Applied Sciences and the Graduate School of Education.

Whereas, such administrative structures range from affiliate and joint appointments across units, programs of seed grants for collaborative research, joint committees on developing curricula, GSE representation on search committees, making the planned PhD program a joint program with GSE, to establishing the department as a joint department between SEAS and GSE, following the model of the Department of Biomedical Engineering.

Therefore, be it resolved that: The Faculty Senate Academic Planning & Assessment Committee recommends the establishment of a Department of Engineering Education in The School of Engineering and Applied Sciences.

Sent for Consideration on:

Decision:

