



TO: Committee on Academic Policy and Programs

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AGENDA ITEM: 3

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering: Proposal to Change the Naming of “Option” to “Major” within the Engineering Science Program

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

The Committee has authority to approve changes to curriculum within established degree programs that can be accomplished with existing resources and are not major.

PREVIOUS ACTION:

HIGHLIGHTS:

As outlined in the attached proposal, students enrolled in the Engineering Science Program pursue their field of specialization after Year 2 by choosing an “Option” to study in Years 3 and 4.

The Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering proposes to that the “options” within the third and fourth year of the Engineering Science Program be renamed as “majors”. Currently, the transcript of an Engineering Science graduate shows the degree name followed by the Option choice in the following way:

BASc-Engineering Sci (Elect Opt)

where the Option selected for this example is the Electrical Engineering Option of Engineering Science. The Faculty proposes to change this to read:

BASc-Engineering Science (Major in Electrical Engineering)

For the purpose of this Major designation, the current Options are to be renamed on the transcript are as follows:

- BASc - Engineering Science (Major in Aerospace Engineering)
- BASc - Engineering Science (Major in Biomedical Engineering)
- BASc - Engineering Science (Major in Computer Engineering)
- BASc - Engineering Science (Major in Electrical Engineering)
- BASc - Engineering Science (Major in Infrastructure Engineering)
- BASc - Engineering Science (Major in Manufacturing Systems Engineering)
- BASc - Engineering Science (Major in Nanoengineering)
- BASc - Engineering Science (Major in Engineering Physics)
- BASc - Engineering Science (Major in Energy Systems Engineering)

The term “major” is the generally used term within engineering science programs in North America. The Faculty has consulted broadly within the Faculty and the Canadian Engineering Accreditation Board (CEAB). Engineering Science Program students have been consulted and are supportive of the proposal.

There are currently two other “options” within the Faculty: the Collaborative Environmental Option in Chemical Engineering and the Collaborative Environmental Option in Civil Engineering. The Faculty’s Curriculum Committee will be reviewing the naming of these next year.

The intent is for this change to be backdated and implemented effective September 2007 so that starting with students graduating in June 2008, a student’s transcript will show their enrolment in an Option in Year 3 and enrolment in a Major in Year 4. The Faculty’s Calendar is available on-line and can be quickly updated to reflect this change.

The proposal was approved by the Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering Faculty Council on February 25, 2008.

FINANCIAL AND/OR PLANNING IMPLICATIONS:

There are no new/additional financial resources required to implement the name change.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Committee on Academic Policy and Programs approves:

THAT the Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering - Engineering Science Program “**Options**” be renamed “**Majors**” and reflected as such on student official academic transcripts to properly recognize the field they have chosen to focus on in Years 3 and 4 of their Program, effective June, 2008.