

Board Meeting
May 29, 2013

ESTABLISH THE MASTER OF ENGINEERING DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN MATERIALS ENGINEERING, AND A MAJOR IN ENGINEERING WITH A CONCENTRATION IN ENERGY SYSTEMS, COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND GRADUATE COLLEGE, URBANA

Action: Establish the Master of Engineering degree with a major in Materials Engineering, and a major in Engineering with a concentration in Energy Systems, College of Engineering and Graduate College

Funding: No New Funding Required

The Chancellor, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and Vice President, University of Illinois with the advice of the Urbana-Champaign Senate recommends approval of a proposal from the College of Engineering and the Graduate College to establish the Master of Engineering degree with a major in Materials Engineering and a major in Engineering with a graduate concentration in energy systems.

The College of Engineering seeks to provide the departments within the College a consistent framework for a course-work-only master's degree that will meet the demonstrated demand of constituents for practice-oriented education in engineering. The proposed degree provides an academic home for an interdisciplinary curriculum to meet the need for expertise in emerging technical areas which require multi-department collaboration. Alumni and industrial leaders have expressed an interest in exposing students to additional course work beyond the bachelor's degree, especially if the course

work is focused on areas of national interest such as energy systems, aerospace systems engineering, and information trust systems.

Specifically, the Master of Engineering in materials engineering will provide students with the opportunity to broaden their materials knowledge base; improve communication skills; obtain a foundation in business, technology management, and entrepreneurship; and gain practical engineering experience. The Master of Engineering in Engineering will require students to select a concentration with an initial offering in energy systems. The structure of the energy systems concentration is designed to give students a solid grounding in the fundamentals of one or more energy-related technical areas as well as a broader exposure to the related economic, social, or political context in which energy systems operate.

The Board action recommended in this item complies in all material respects with applicable State and federal laws, University of Illinois *Statutes, The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure*, and Board of Trustees policies and directives.

The Vice President for Academic Affairs concurs with this recommendation. The University Senates Conference has indicated that no further Senate jurisdiction is involved.

The President of the University recommends approval. This action is subject to further review and approval by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.