

Approved by the Board of Trustees  
November 13, 2014

8

Board Meeting  
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ESTABLISH THE MASTER OF ENGINEERING IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING,  
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND THE GRADUATE COLLEGE, URBANA

**Action:** Establish the Master of Engineering in Mechanical Engineering, College of Engineering and the 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 (MENG) in Mechanical Engineering.

The Department of Mechanical Science and Engineering is continually refocusing its research and teaching in areas of critical societal need. To address the needs of students, industrial partners, and the greater societal issues relevant to engineering practice, the MENG in Mechanical Engineering program has been designed to offer students an accelerated, industry-oriented graduate degree. The curriculum allows students to focus their coursework in areas that are most relevant to their professional career interests. Students who graduate from the program will have recognizable expertise, and these credentials will make it more likely that they will find

opportunities to utilize their skills to address pressing societal and industry needs. The proposed program will be self-supporting.

Mechanical Science and Engineering, the College of Engineering, and the University of Illinois are uniquely qualified to offer a leading program in this area. The department is currently home to numerous labs and research centers focusing on theoretical and experimental investigations of phenomena related to energy systems, materials behavior, combustion, micro- and nano-mechanical systems, controls and dynamics, thermodynamics, biomechanics, and much more. State-of-the-art facilities and a significant number of faculty members with expertise in these areas, matched only by a few peer institutions, have broad appeal for prospective students and industrial partners.

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.