

Approved by the Board of Trustees  
May 7, 2015

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Board Meeting  
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ESTABLISH A MAJOR IN ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING FOR  
THE DEGREE OF MASTERS OF ENGINEERING, COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING  
AND THE GRADUATE COLLEGE, URBANA

**Action:** Establish a Major in Electrical and Computer Engineering for the Degree of Masters of 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 to establish a Major in Electrical and Computer Engineering for the degree of Masters of Engineering.

The proposed self-supporting program is professionally oriented. Global competition is forcing an increased emphasis on innovation, interdisciplinary approaches to problem solving, communication skills, and teamwork. The courses in this program will focus on these areas: innovation, interdisciplinary problem-solving approaches, communication skills, and teamwork, in a uniquely concise and thorough way. It is generally accepted in industry and in academe that a four-year bachelor of science in electrical and computer engineering is barely adequate to prepare students for current and future engineering challenges and that a professional master's degree is highly desirable preparation for employment in today's competitive industrial environment. The major in Electrical and Computer Engineering for the Degree of Masters of Engineering will

provide the opportunity for electrical and computer engineering students to broaden their knowledge and enable our top undergraduate students to expand their horizons and be well-prepared to meet these industry challenges.

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.