



**College of Engineering**  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

**ACADEMIC PLANNING COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 2022**  
**1:30 – 3:00 PM**  
**ROOM 3609 ENGINEERING HALL**

attending: O. Alagoz; S. Babcock; J. Binzley; W. Block; R. Bonazza; E. Borbely; C. Castro; L. DeBaillie;  
S. Hagen; G. Harrington; D. Ludois; D. Lynn; M. Malkin; D. Noyce; D. Reindl (for X. Qian); O. Schmitz

absent: D. Henderson; I. Robertson; M. Romero; C. Walters; A. Whitehorse

guests: S. Owczarek; W. Lipske, Office of the Registrar

Announcements/Approval of March Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve March meeting minutes approved unanimously

Comprehensive Scholar Record

Scott Owczarek and Will Lipske from the Office of the Registrar provided an overview of the Comprehensive Scholar Record. The Comprehensive Scholar Record would list program learning outcomes (PLOs) on the certified electronic (CE) diploma. Would also allow for additional program/degree information to be listed. This information may be helpful for students to highlight their knowledge to employers, graduate programs, etc. Stressed that information should be pulled from Guide only and that transcripts should be kept separate from the comprehensive scholar record. No concerns from APC regarding the addition of the PLOs to the CE-diploma.

There were concerns raised around the idea of allowing students to curate a more comprehensive learner record, which would allow for other types of co-curricular information, such as badges, certifications to be added to the record. This idea is not currently under development, but may be brought back for discussion in the future.

MEng: Engineering Management Program Review and MEng: Engine Systems Program Review

The program review committee found that both the Engineering Management and the Engine Systems programs were well-run and didn't find any critical problems.

There was some confusion regarding which programs needed to be reviewed as the two programs also are under the Master of Engineering parent program. It was suggested to review programs separately going forward.

Some suggestions from the committee include:

**Master of Engineering (parent program):**

- The role of the oversight committee, the InterPro Advisory Committee, should be more clearly defined. The assessment tools developed by the previous oversight committee should be reviewed and updated and used to assess each of the Master of Engineering named options.
- Expand the use of the continuous improvement model currently used by the Engineering Management program to all Master of Engineering named options.

#### **Engine Systems:**

- Consider moving the program from a named option in the Master of Engineering program to a separate degree program or attach the program as a named option to an existing degree program to allow for more relevant program learning outcomes and assessment.
- Develop processes to document operations, filing of program documentation and cross-train staff to reduce the effect of staff changes.
- Develop a plan to increase the recruitment of traditional under-represented groups. Submit plan to the InterPro Advisory Committee.

#### **Engineering Management:**

- Continue the process to move the program from a named option to its own degree program.
- Allocate financial resources and personnel to: hire additional staff, including full-time instructors instead of the current use of many part-time instructors; develop a marketing strategy, including a corporate relations strategy to increase student recruitment.
- Develop processes to document operations, filing of program documentation and cross-train staff to reduce the effect of staff changes.
- Develop a plan to increase the recruitment of traditional under-represented groups. Submit plan to the InterPro Advisory Committee.

Motion to recommend approval of the review committee report for the Engineering Management program passed unanimously

Motion to recommend approval of the review committee report for the Engine Systems program passed unanimously.

#### Industrial Engineering Graduate Program Review

The review committee found the graduate programs in ISyE to be healthy and successful. The committee highlighted a newer approach to graduate recruiting, which admits students without a faculty member advisor identified prior to enrollment. These students are funded by department funds and usually within a year, find an advisor and support.

There is concern around the proliferation of “data analytics” and “data engineering” programs on campus and that these programs are being developed without collaboration and seem to be in competition with CoE programs.

The review committee provided the following recommendations:

- Continue efforts to recruit students from traditionally under-represented groups.
- Provide more opportunities for interaction between students across research groups and with faculty across the department.
- Provide math refresher/catch-up opportunity

Motion to recommend approval of the review committee report for the graduate programs in the Dept. of Industrial & Systems Engineering passed unanimously.

### GRE Requirement: dropping requirement for some programs

The GRE requirement was waived during COVID; some departments plan to waive the requirement permanently. Should the requirement be the same across the college or should this be decided at the department level?

ECE finds the writing score useful, but notes it's optional not required; uses the phrase "may be considered if available."

It was suggested not to use the word "permanent" if the requirement is waived as departments may want to bring it back in the future.

APC would like to be aware of the department GRE requirements, but do not need to approve for each department.

Some considerations to take into account:

- effect on US News rankings
- inequality of standardized tests

Please bring this topic up with your departments for discussion at the September 2022 APC meeting.

### Proposed Changes to Program Review Guidelines

Campus shared a proposed revision to the program review policy. APIR has also updated the program review procedures on their website to present the information on the policy, procedures, timeline, etc. in a more accessible way. Comments were due on April 25.