BOARD OF REGENTS
MOTION CONSIDERATION FORM

October 21, 2011

Open Session

I. Motion to Be Considered:

Recommend approval of the following changes to the organization of academic programs effective July 1, 2012, to include moving the Department of Computer Science from the College of Science and Mathematics to the School of Polytechnic Studies; upgrading the organizational classification of the School of Polytechnic Studies from a school to a college; and changing the name of the School of Polytechnic Studies to the College of Polytechnic and Agricultural Studies.

II. Background:

The School of Polytechnic Studies is currently comprised of the Department of Industrial and Engineering Technology and the Department of Agriculture. Since its formation, this school has grown significantly in undergraduate and graduate student enrollment, international student enrollment, academic offerings, grant fund and donation acquisition, and visibility. The school has developed a strong positive reputation with local business and political leaders.

These are the benefits of implementing this proposal:
1. Increased programmatic strength, collaboration and synergy between the Industrial and Engineering Technology Department and the Computer Science Department.
2. Increased visibility for the Computer Science programs and for the Agriculture programs.
3. Recognition of the growth that has occurred in total enrollment, graduate enrollment, and programmatic strength of those programs in the School of Polytechnic Studies.
4. The improved stature of the unit would assist in recruiting capable administration, faculty, and students to the associated academic programs.

Costs for implementing this proposal are minimal, primarily involving new letterhead, stationary, and promotional materials. Operating budgets of the Department of Computer Sciences would be transferred with that department. Some laboratory relocations may be implemented to facilitate this change although none have been identified at this time.

This proposal was reviewed according to current Faculty Handbook policies and procedures, which included evaluation by the three departments involved and Academic Council. The proposal has been presented to Faculty Senate and the Student Government Association as an information item with opportunity for comment. All entities have generally expressed support for the proposal. A resolution supporting this proposal was also approved unanimously by Academic Council.

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Recommended By:
Student Government
Faculty Senate
Administrative Council
VP, Finance & Admin.
VP, University Advancement

Chairperson
Dean
Academic Council
Provost
President

Board Action on: Postpone:
Motion By: Amend:
Second By: Disapprove:
Vote: Yeas: Nays:
Secretary: