

**THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
REGENTS COMMUNICATION**

**Approved by the Regents  
May 20, 2010**

**ACTION REQUEST**

**SUBJECT:** A new degree program for the College of Engineering and Computer Science, University of Michigan-Dearborn

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Approval of a new degree program, "Master of Science in Engineering in Energy Systems Engineering," to be offered by the College of Engineering and Computer Science, University of Michigan-Dearborn

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** September 1, 2010

The College of Engineering and Computer Science (CECS) at the University of Michigan-Dearborn proposes to establish an interdisciplinary graduate program leading to a Master of Science in Engineering degree in Energy Systems Engineering. The program will be offered through the Rackham School of Graduate Studies. The curriculum of the program has been designed to provide core knowledge on alternative and sustainable energy technologies, environmental issues and energy policy. It also gives students opportunity to specialize in energy generation, utilization and distribution in both automotive and electric power sectors. The program is intended to prepare students for careers in both automotive and energy industries.

The proposed master's program reflects the University of Michigan-Dearborn's mission and commitment to provide education on contemporary issues and be responsive to the changing need of the society. The State of Michigan has recognized energy as one of the industries in which significant growth and investment are expected to occur in the coming years. The automotive industry is also transforming as the development of electric, hybrid and other energy-efficient vehicles has become more urgent. Need for diversification of industries is leading to the growth of many small to medium-size companies in the energy sector in the Detroit metropolitan area. As a result of all these changes, there is now a great need for engineers with knowledge, training and research experience in alternative and renewable energy production, utilization and distribution. Student surveys conducted in both undergraduate and graduate engineering classes indicate a strong interest in energy systems engineering. Letters from the members of the College's Visiting Committee also indicate that there is considerable support from industry for the proposed program.

The Dean, the Executive Committee, and the governing faculty of the CECS have approved the proposal. The Council of Deans, Graduate Board, and provost and vice-chancellor of academic affairs at the University of Michigan-Dearborn have also extended their approval. The Rackham Executive Board approved the proposal at their March meeting, and the Presidents Council, State Universities of Michigan, approved it in April 2010.

I am pleased to present this proposal for your approval.

Recommended by:



Daniel Little, Chancellor  
University of Michigan-Dearborn

May 2010