

Approved by the Regents
September 16, 2010

**THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION**

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, "Bachelor of Science in Bioengineering," to be offered by the College of Engineering and Computer Science, University of Michigan-Dearborn

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2011

The Department of Mechanical Engineering within the College of Engineering and Computer Science at the University of Michigan-Dearborn proposes to offer a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree in Bioengineering (BE). The proposed program is designed to address the needs of undergraduate students who are interested in this rapidly growing engineering field of study. The program will complement the existing B.S. degree programs within the College of Engineering and Computer Science.

As the ME department at UM-Dearborn continues to improve academic standards and program quality, it is crucial to recruit and retain high-quality students. The proposed B.S. in Bioengineering (BSBE) program will help attract and prepare students for this fast-growing engineering field and for a diversified Michigan economy.

The proposed BSBE program complements the existing ME program and offers excellent prospects to increase enrollment while serving the need of students, local community, and industrial infrastructures. It also helps to bring the scientists in biology and engineering faculty together to do cutting-edge, multidisciplinary research. The need for this type of technical work force is critical for attracting and helping to grow industries in this part of the state in a more diversified economy. The BSBE graduates will also be equipped with the skills and training for the development of startup companies in bioengineering, which is essential for the diversified economic development of southeast Michigan. The proposed new program can produce well-qualified graduates to help satisfy the local, state, and national demand.

The Dean, the Executive Committee, and the governing faculty of the College of Engineering and Computer Science have approved the Bachelor of Science degree in Bioengineering. The Council of Deans and provost and vice-chancellor of academic affairs at the University of Michigan-Dearborn have also extended their approval. The Presidents Council, State Universities of Michigan approved it on June 4, 2010.

I am pleased to present this proposal for your approval.

Recommended by:



Daniel Little, Chancellor
University of Michigan-Dearborn

September 2010