Proposed name change for the Department of Electrical Engineering to Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

The Senate Committee on Academic Organization and Structure recommends approval of this name change. In its report to the Senate Council, the Committee noted that the Department of Electrical Engineering voted unanimously to support the name change and the College of Engineering voted in favor of the name change by a large majority.

The College of Engineering urges this name change for several reasons. First, many of the EE departments in benchmark universities have changed their names to electrical and computer engineering; the College believes that UK is disadvantaged in its ability to attract and retain faculty and students by continued use of an out-dated name. Second, the department has already changed its curriculum to provide more computer offerings. Finally, the College will create a formal degree program in computer engineering to be jointly administered by the departments of Electrical and Computer Engineering and Computer Science. The College sees the name change as a harbinger of that program.

The Senate Council voted to put this matter on the Senate agenda because some members of the Council voiced concern about approving the name change before development and approval of the program in computer engineering. Accordingly, the Council decided to place the matter on the Senate agenda for discussion and vote.

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