

ILLINOIS
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

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Proposal to the Senate Educational Policy Committee

PROPOSAL TITLE: Minor Revision to the Undergraduate Agricultural and Biological Engineering Curriculum

SPONSOR: Professor Alan Hansen, 360S AESB, 333-2969, achansen@illinois.edu

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE REVISION:

ABE 469 (Industry-Linked Design Project) is currently a technical elective and one of three options for a capstone design experience. This revision will make ABE 469 a required course in the curriculum, added to the Technical Core. To maintain degree-hours credit neutrality and curriculum integrity, this change is accompanied by:

- i) for the Areas of Study Specializations: a reduction of four required hours of Technical Electives.
- ii) for the Areas of Study Food and Bioprocess Engineering Concentration: the removal of the current required two-hour capstone course (ABE 485-Food & Process Engrg Design) and a reduction of two required hours of Technical Electives. (ABE 485 will be added to the list of Technical Electives.)

JUSTIFICATION:

The ABET accreditation review during the Fall of 2007, revealed a concern with the required capstone design experience for students that did not select ABE 469. The other available options were not considered sufficient to satisfy this criterion. In addition, ABE 469 was judged to be a model course for a quality design experience. Therefore, the faculty have agreed to make the Industry-Linked Capstone course (ABE 469) a requirement for all students in the program. This minor change will strengthen the design skills for students in every specialization.

BUDGETARY AND STAFF IMPLICATIONS:

The same number of students will be provided the capstone experience; it will just be provided in one course rather than having three options available. The revisions require no additional staff and will have no implications on class size, teaching loads, other departments, the library, or facilities.


DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE: Fall 2009

STATEMENT FOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY CATALOG: See the Appendix for the revised Programs of Study.

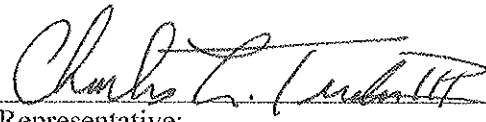
Available for review in
the Senate Office.

CLEARANCES:

Signatures:

Unit Representative: 

Date: 12/10/08

College Representative: 

Date: 12/10/08

Provost Representative: _____

Date: _____

Educational Policy Committee Representative: _____

Date: _____