1967

Department Name Change from Department of Mechanical Engineering to Department of Mechanical Engineering and Applied Mechanics -- 37th Full Report of the CCA, Part C.

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND
FACULTY SENATE

RESOLUTION
Approved by the Faculty Senate

TO: President Francis H. Horn

FROM: Chairman of the Faculty Senate

1. The attached RESOLUTION, titled Department Name Change from Department of Mechanical Engineering to Department of Mechanical Engineering and Applied Mechanics -- 37th Full Report of the CCA, Part C., is forwarded for your consideration.

2. The original and two copies for your use are included.

3. This RESOLUTION was approved by vote of the Faculty Senate on March 16, 1967.

4. After considering this resolution, will you please indicate your approval, disapproval or other comment and return the original copy, completing the endorsement below.

March 28, 1967
Chairman of the Faculty Senate

ENDORSEMENT TO: Chairman of the Faculty Senate
FROM: The University President

1. Returned.

2. Approved X. Disapproved ___. Other (explanation attached) ___.

March 28, 1967
President

Original received and forwarded to the Secretary of the Senate and Registrar for filing in the Archives of the University.

Chairman of the Faculty Senate

Form approved 11/65
The Faculty Senate approves the department name change for the Department of Mechanical Engineering to the Department of Mechanical Engineering and Applied Mechanics.

Comment: Supporting evidence attached.
SUMMARY: The faculty of the Department of Mechanical Engineering requests that the name of the department be changed to the Department of Mechanical Engineering and Applied Mechanics.

EXPLANATION:

1. The Department of Mechanical Engineering offers previously approved graduate programs in fluid and solid mechanics corresponding to programs found in Mechanics departments at other universities. We also offer previously approved undergraduate and graduate programs corresponding to programs found in mechanical engineering departments at other universities. The proposed name change would serve to indicate the true nature of our department to prospective graduate students as well as to faculty members at other universities. This may be an important factor in faculty recruitment. The scope of the department would also be made clearer to research agency personnel.

2. The programs involved are already approved. University funding of the department is unaffected by this name change.

3. The use of a double name in connection with Mechanical Engineering is very common in the academic world (the most common being Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering).

4. Over half of our faculty members are involved in work in the applied mechanics area. This work is not adequately reflected in our present title.

5. It should be noted that this is a unanimous proposal of a unified department. We are not proposing any steps that would lead to the creation of two fragmented departments. In fact, by giving proper recognition to the existing programs in Applied Mechanics in our department, the proposed name change would serve to eliminate any pressure to obtain such recognition by the creation of a separate department.
6. The University of Rhode Island will benefit from the proposed name change in that our existing strength in this important area of engineering will be given a proper heading in not only our catalog but also in the many national listings of engineering departments made by various societies and agencies.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

1. Mechanics departments have various titles. The most common titles involve all or part of the following:


2. Mechanics degree programs are almost always graduate programs involving work toward the M.S. or Ph.D. degrees. Because of the required mathematics and prerequisite introductory course background, this is essentially a graduate discipline.

3. Graduate Programs in Applied Mechanics are characterized by course offerings in the areas of theory of elasticity, advanced vibrations of continuous media, continuum mechanics, nonlinear vibrations, theory of plates, theory of shells, elastic stability, advanced dynamics, analytical mechanics, thermoelasticity, theory of plasticity, viscoelasticity, fracture mechanics, advanced strength of materials, and fluid mechanics (including inviscid fluid flow, viscous flow and boundary layer theory). These programs generally require that at least 20% of the total course work be taken in mathematics - usually in applied mathematics - courses in a Mathematics Department.
Description
The Department of Mechanical Engineering offers programs leading to the Master of Science and the Doctor of Philosophy degrees in mechanical engineering. Faculty members also participate in a cooperative graduate program with the Department of Ocean Engineering and the Graduate School of Oceanography. These programs are open to qualified applicants with degrees in engineering, physical sciences, or applied mathematics.

Graduate students in mechanical engineering may major in theoretical and applied mechanics, fluid dynamics, thermal science, or machine design.

Facilities
Laboratory facilities are available for study in all of the above major areas, including ocean-going research. Also, extensive use is made of the University's IBM 360 digital computer and the new University library.

Current Research
- Manganese Solutions
- Thick-Walled Spheres
- Stream Aeration
- Hydrodynamic Mass
- Convection in Liquids
- Turbulent Flow Noise
- Fatigue Crack Initiation
- Vibration Absorbers
- Anaerobic Digestion
- Hyperbolic Shells
- Aerodynamics of Arrays
- Fatigue Reliability
- Self-Healing Structures
- Plasma Jet Performance
- Tractor Rockets
- Towed Body Dynamics
- Compliant Boundary Flow
- Non-Newtonian Additives
- Liquid/Bubble Diffusion
- Underwater Propulsion
- Wind-Generated Currents

Financial Aid
Fellowships, assistantships, and tuition scholarships are available. Graduate assistantships for half-time work provide a $2,100 academic year stipend plus remission of fees up to $480. Summer work is also available.

Faculty and Areas of Specialization

Housing
Housing is available for single and married graduate students on the campus and in neighboring communities.

Applications
Apply to the Dean of The Graduate School, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, Rhode Island 02881. Applications for assistantships, fellowships or scholarships should be received by March 15, 1967. Appointments will be made about April 1. For information write to C. D. Nash, Acting Chairman, Department of Mechanical Engineering.