

5-2-2019

## SR-18-19-52 APC

Marshall University

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## ACADEMIC PLANNING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

### SR-18-19-52 APC

By unanimous vote, the Academic Planning Committee recommends approval of an *Intent to Plan* for the Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering (BSCE) program. The new program will provide high quality education and graduates will be well prepared to accept employment in civil engineering. It will provide opportunities for students to participate in service-oriented activities through civic and professional organizations. It will provide research opportunities for civil engineering faculty in areas consistent with the needs and interests of the state and the region. Students may elect to participate in a Co-Operative education program where they could acquire work experience with participating companies.

### RATIONALE:

Creating the BSCE will improve student recruitment, regional market potential, and industry hiring needs. Students that know they want to be civil engineers will specifically look for institutions with a BSCE degree. Prospective students in the vicinity of Marshall University may know that the current BSE-CE degree is somehow similar to a civil engineering degree. Prospective students from outside this region do not currently consider Marshall University as an option. International students are often confused by the current BSE-CE degree. To them, having an emphasis in Civil Engineering is not the same as getting a Civil Engineering degree. International students are very concerned with the name of the degree because that is what shows up on the diploma. Based on feedback from graduating students looking for jobs, they feel like they may be at a disadvantage when looking for civil engineering positions outside of this region.

Many employers expressed current and future needs for civil engineers, and are willing to provide Co-Op and employment opportunities for the program's future students and graduates. It is expected that the BSCE program will attract more students than the existing BSE-CE by about 20-25%. It is also conceivable that once the BSCE program is approved and accredited by ABET, the INTO program on the MU campus may recruit many foreign students interested in the BSCE degree. This new degree is projected to have around 232 majors in its fifth year.

The BSCE degree program has no need for additional faculty resources or additional equipment. The proposed BSCE degree is very similar to the existing Bachelor of Science in Engineering degree, Civil Engineering area of emphasis (BSE-CE). Therefore the existing BSE students would likely transfer to the BSCE degree since it is generally more desirable and widely recognized by employers. The engineering faculty and the BSE-CE program constituencies believe the proposed BSCE would make Marshall University more competitive in attracting students and make our graduates more marketable to potential employers. Creating the BSCE will improve student recruitment, regional market potential, and industry hiring needs.

**ACADEMIC PLANNING COMMITTEE  
RECOMMENDATION**

**SR-18-19-52 APC**

**FACULTY SENATE CHAIR:**

APPROVED BY THE  
FACULTY SENATE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: 5/2/19

DISAPPROVED BY THE  
FACULTY SENATE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT:**

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: 5-11-19

DISAPPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**COMMENTS:** \_\_\_\_\_

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NOTE: Recommendations should be sent to the Faculty Senate office via email.  
Recommendations longer than one page or those with attachments are to be sent in final format with this as a cover page. Any incomplete recommendations or those requiring extensive formatting changes will be returned to the recording secretary/committee.