UC 11631 11F

TO: Simon Bott, Chair
               Undergraduate Council

APPROVED DEC 07 2011

FROM: Richard Scamell
               Academic Policies and Procedures Committee

SUBJECT: UC 11434 11F: Proposal to Change Undergraduate Admission Requirements in Department of Engineering Technology

DATE: November 16, 2011

The Academic Policies and Procedures Committee met on Wednesday, November 9 to consider a proposal to change the undergraduate admission requirements for all degree programs offered in the Department of Engineering Technology (Biotechnology, Computer Engineering Technology, Electrical Power Technology and Mechanical Engineering Technology).   Participating in the discussion were committee members Richard Scamell, Kevin Simon and Jerry Waite. Heidar Malki attended the meeting as a guest.

Background
The original intent of the Department of Engineering Technology in UC 11434 11F was to change the undergraduate admission requirements for all Engineering Technology programs (i.e., Biotechnology, Computer Engineering Technology, Electrical Power Technology, and Mechanical Engineering Technology) beginning with the Fall 2012 semester.   After discussion with the Committee, the Department decided to drop first-time in college freshmen from the proposal. Hence the revised purpose of UC 11434 11F is to increase the minimum grade point average for entry into all Engineering Technology degree programs to 2.25 for (a) all transfer students from colleges and universities outside the University of Houston and (b) students changing their major within the University of Houston.

Justification
The enrollment in the Department of Engineering Technology has grown by close to fifty percent since the Fall 2007 semester. This growth has been accompanied by an even higher growth in the percentage of students on academic warning, probation and suspension. While the adoption of UC 11434 11F is likely to slow the enrollment growth experienced by the department in recent years, its focus on recruiting higher quality students promises to increase retention as well as graduation.

Changes To College of Technology Change of Major Requirements in the Undergraduate Catalog
Adoption of UC 11434 11F necessitates two changes to the Change of Major requirements in the College of Technology section of the Undergraduate Catalog.   One change, shown in *italics* below states the change of major requirements for students wishing to change their major into one of the four Department of Engineering Technology degree programs. The change in the wording highlighted in the next to the last paragraph is necessitated by the different required grade point averages required for admission in the Computer Information Systems and Engineering Technology degree programs.

Change of Major*

Students must have a 2.00 minimum cumulative grade point average to change their majors to most of the college's degree programs.

Students must have a 2.25 minimum cumulative grade point average to change their majors to degree programs in the Department of Engineering Technology: Biotechnology, Computer Engineering Technology, Electrical Power Technology, and Mechanical Engineering Technology.

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* It should be noted that the requirements defined in the Change of Major section apply to all University of Houston students who wish to change their major into one of the College of Technology degree programs as well as to transfer students from other colleges and universities who wish to enter one of the College of Technology degree programs.

Computer Information Systems requires a 2.5 grade point average for all college level work attempted.

Students with less than a 2.00 the required cumulative grade point average for a particular major are encouraged to obtain academic advising in their intended major; however, they are not eligible for admission to the major until the required point average is attained.

To apply for a change of major, consult the Academic Services Center Web site www.tech.uh.edu.

Recommendation
The Committee unanimously recommends the adoption of UC 11434 11F as revised.