

PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF THE GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN CYBER-PHYSICAL SYSTEMS TO THE GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN MOBILITY

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Governors change the name of the Graduate Certificate in Cyber-Physical Systems to the Graduate Certificate in Mobility, effective Winter 2020.

Background

According to a recent report, the growth of the autonomous vehicle sector has been massive between 2015 and 2019: during this period, job postings increased by 833%. Thus, in order to catch up the numbers of job postings in the mobility sector, academic institutions need to provide students with the necessary background that will make them ready for the mobility job market. At the same time, we found that the current Cyber-Physical Systems graduate certificate program was not very successful due to the fact that the term of Cyber-Physical Systems (CPS) is very academia-oriented, and not industry friendly. In two years, only one student has been awarded the certificate. The faculty leaders of the current Cyber-Physical Systems Graduate Certificate program examined the situation and unanimously agreed that changing the name from Cyber-Physical Systems Graduate Certificate program to Mobility Graduate Certificate program should make it more attractive to industry, current and prospective students. All seven tracks will be kept the same as they are all highly related to Mobility. The only change will be adding the existing “Introduction to Mobility” course as an alternative to the core requirements.

Approvals

The proposal was approved by the Cyber-Physical Systems Graduate Certificate Program faculty, the Dean of the College of Engineering, the Graduate Council, the Dean of the Graduate School, and the Interim Provost.

PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Governors change the name of the Department of Criminal Justice to the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, effective Fall 2020.

Background

This recommendation is the consequence of the evolution of the discipline and department, the particular interests of current and prospective students, and the expertise of departmental faculty. The current title does not accurately represent the current discipline or the curriculum here at Wayne State University. Criminology and criminal justice are multi-disciplinary fields of study with overlapping pedagogical and research interests. The two fields are steadily merging into one. This overlap is evidenced, both here at WSU and across the country, in a number of ways.

- 1) Criminology and criminal justice are research supported and theory driven disciplines that overlap in seeking explanations of crime and criminality, socio-political reactions to crime, and the behavior of criminal justice institutions and officials. A separation of these academic endeavors is artificial.
- 2) Faculty and students of the Criminal Justice Department engage in classic criminological research, criminal justice research, and research that overlaps these two orientations.
- 3) Criminal justice Ph.D. departments produce a significant number of criminology graduates, and criminal justice doctorates are hired in criminology departments.
- 4) The major textbooks in criminology and criminal justice as well as juvenile delinquency and juvenile justice contain overlapping substantive information and chapters.
- 5) The major journals are similarly converging in content.
- 6) The two primary professional societies associated with each field, the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences and the American Society of Criminology, have highly overlapping memberships, overlapping conference research themes and have formed a collaborative research partnership.
- 7) Combining the titles of Criminology and Criminal Justice into one department has significant precedents at other universities. For example, the University of Maryland's Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice is considered one of the highest ranked such departments in the U.S. Many other examples exist.

The change will better reflect the expertise of faculty, the curriculum in the department, faculty scholarship, teaching interests, and academic vision of the department. Furthermore, it will clarify perceptions of the department and attract more students to WSU.

Current Students

This name change will have no detrimental effect on current students. Current students will continue to follow their current plans of work (there is no accompanying change in curriculum). Students interested in graduate school will, however, benefit from having a degree title that more accurately represents their curriculum.

Budget and Resource Requirements

The operating budget of the department will not be significantly affected by this name change. Aside from limited signage and business cards, the majority of needed changes will be electronic (e.g., website).

Approvals

The proposed name change of the department has been approved by the faculty and chair of the Department of Criminal Justice, the CLAS Faculty Council, the CLAS Faculty Assembly, the Dean of College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and the Provost.

**CHANGE IN THE NAME OF BACHELOR OF ARTS IN INFORMATION SYSTEMS
TECHNOLOGY TO THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY AND TRANSFER TO THE COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING**

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Governors change the title of the Bachelor of Arts in Information Systems Technology (BAIST) to the Bachelor of Science in Information Technology (BSIT) and move the degree program from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to the College of Engineering, effective Fall 2019.

Background

The Department of Computer Science (CSC) in the College of Engineering currently offers three degrees. A BSCS degree in the College of Engineering and BACS and BAIST degrees in the College of Liberal Arts. The three bachelor's degree programs have a combined enrollment of over 800 majors as well as many minors. The vast majority of the students (~90%) are enrolled in the BS program due to the employment advantages offered by the BS relative to the BA.

The relatively few students at Wayne State who opt for one of the BA degrees instead of the BS degree do so primarily because of the less mathematically rigorous requirements of the programs. We believe that these students would be better served by a BS program, where there are significant and growing enrollments, rather than a BA program. Students, especially transfer students, frequently express interest in an Information Technology major when speaking with the department academic advisors. Hence, changing the name from Information Systems Technology to Information Technology will better describe the program.

Finally, moving the program from CLAS to the CoE will simplify advising, and reduce time to degree for students that decide to change majors within Computer Science. Students in CLAS are required to demonstrate proficiency in a foreign language and complete a minor, while neither are required for BS degrees in Engineering. Over the years, this has caused many complications for students moving between the BS and BA programs. Moving the program to the CoE will make it easier for students in one degree program to move to the other if they decide that is in their best interests.

Program Description

The mission of the program is to provide students with a solid foundation in both computer and information systems and business administration. Through the use of state of the art software and hardware students will learn to develop their programming skills in order to allow them to apply these learned techniques to analyze an information technology problem, evaluate possible solutions, and create a solution as part of an organizational development team. The program prepares students for careers in information system development, system organization, information system security, data base systems and analytics, and organizational analysis. Upon graduation a student is prepared for a career in information technology applications in business, industry, government, academics and the local community. In addition it provides students with opportunities to interact with professional institutions and exhibit the highest ethical standards in the practice of their profession.

Submitted by: Keith E. Whitfield, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Plan for Existing Students

The vast majority of students will elect to transition to the BS IT program. However, existing students will be grandfathered and allowed to graduate under the current BA IST requirements under the University's Bulletin-in-Effect policy.

Approvals

The proposal has been approved by the College of Engineering Academic Operations Committee, Dean of the College of Engineering, and the Provost.