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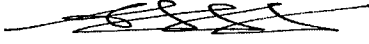
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

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Andreas Cangelaris
Department Head

To: ECE Curriculum Committee Members – AY 2009-10
Douglas Jones, Chair
Tangul Basar
Stephen Bishop, Ex-Officio
Donna Brown
Andreas Cangelaris, Ex-Officio
Patrick Chapman
Kent Choquette
Todd Coleman
Lynford Goddard
Mark Hasegawa-Johnson
Erhan Kudeki, Ex-Officio
Stephen Levinson
Steven Lumetta
Jonathan Makela
Sean Meyn
Michael Oelze
Sanjay Patel
John Tucker
Nitin Vaidya
Pramod Viswanath

From: Andreas C. Cangelaris 

Date: August 28, 2009

Subject: Curriculum Committee Charges – AY 2009-10

Dear Colleagues,

The purpose of this memo is to request your Committee's assistance with a set of issues that I consider instrumental to the quality and impact of our curriculum and, thus, I would very much like to see them receive priority in your Committee's business and, ultimately, addressed effectively by the end AY 2009-10.

The first one is the completion of the transition of ECE450, ECE442/443, ECE440, ECE430, and ECE410 into 300-level courses. I am aware of the fact that this process is on-going and progress is being made with the transition of some of the courses. Our effective completion of this process will provide the students with both the motivation and expertise to pursue more aggressively many of the outstanding tech electives offered in our department. In addition to increasing enrollments in these electives, this transition promises to make the students' experience with these electives much more rewarding.

The second issue concerns the formation of an ECE minor. Your committee has been deliberating this for a while now. Associate Head Kudeki is preparing a revised draft proposal for the minor for your consideration and further discussion. I have personally heard from students from Bio-engineering, MechSE, MatSE and Physics who have expressed interest in the option for such a minor. I know I am not alone in my conviction that offering such a minor benefits our department and the College. Let's plan to complete it and have it approved by the ECE faculty by the end of AY 2009-10.

The final issue that I would like you to ask for your assistance concerns the development of a revenue-generating Master's degree in ECE. I have asked the ECE Graduate Committee to give special priority this year to their detailed deliberation of the option of developing a non-thesis Master's degree in ECE and develop a plan for its implementation. I expect the ECE Graduate Committee to engage you in some of their deliberations and I would like to ask you that you assist them in their efforts.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your service on our department's Curriculum Committee. Our undergraduate program is one of the best in the world and enhancing its excellence and its impact is one of our most important responsibilities. On behalf of the entire ECE faculty, I am grateful for your time and effort toward the successful pursuit of the committee's charges for AY 2009-10.