

ECE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

TO: Tangu Basar, Brian Cunningham, Matthew Frank, Seth Hutchinson, Wen-Mei Hwu, Jianming Jin, Doug Jones, Steve Levinson, Chang Liu, Sean Meyn, Narayana Rao, Naresh Shanbhag, Greg Timp, Pramod Viswanath, Bruce Wheeler

FROM: Erhan Kudeki

SUBJECT: Curriculum committee meeting minutes

DATE: Sept 21, 2005

Minutes of the Curriculum Committee Meeting Sept 15, 2005

- 1) Members present: Tangu Basar, Brian Cunningham, Matthew Frank, Doug Jones, Steve Levinson, Chang Liu, Sean Meyn, Greg Timp, Pramod Viswanath, Bruce Wheeler
- 2) ECE 498JL proposal for Spring 06, "Introduction to Nanotechnology" by Prof. J. Lyding was discussed and approved for 3 credit hours (the proposal request for 4 hrs did not match the outline).
- 3) ECE 498BC proposal for Spring 06, "Biosensors" by Prof. B. Cunningham was discussed and approved.
- 4) The committee discussed the available options for including an introductory biology component in ECE curricula in light of information provided by Bruce Wheeler about the UIUC Bioengineering program, some recent changes in biology sequences being offered at the UIUC, and the biology component in electrical engineering at MIT (a 4 hr introductory biology requirement which matches the 4 hr difference in the graduation hours at MIT and UIUC). The options include requiring MCB 150 (or AP credit for an equivalent) to be taken as a technical (or free?) elective, or not having such a requirement but encouraging the students interested in bio-applications to take MCB 150 before their junior year (this could be helped by maintaining an informative section in the ECE undergrad manual about bioengineering concentration area). The committee asked Bruce Wheeler, Brian Cunningham, Greg Timp, and Steve Levinson to form (effectively) an ad-hoc subcommittee to study these (and alternative) options and report back as soon as possible. A study of the ECE programs in peer institutions other than MIT would also be useful.
- 5) A proposal from Doug Jones, "Proposed principles regarding ECE-labeled courses" was distributed and will be discussed in the next meeting.
- 6) The next meeting is planned for Thursday, September 22, 2005, 9:00 AM.

