



SACRAMENTO
STATE

Program Proposal Form B

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Academic Group (College): ECS	Date of Submission to College Dean: 4/27/07
Academic Organization (Department): EEE	Requested Effective: Fall <u>X</u> , Spring __, 2007.
Department Chair: Suresh Vadhva	Contact if not Department Chair:
Title of the Program: EEE Masters Program	

Type of Program Proposal:

- X** Modification in Existing Program:
- Substantive Change
 - X** Non-Substantive Change
 - Deletion of Existing Program

- New Programs
- Initiation (Projection) of New Program on to Master Plan
 - New Degree Programs
 - Regular Process
 - Fast Track Process
 - Pilot Process
 - New Minor, Concentration, Option, Specialization, Emphasis
 - New Certificate Program

PLEASE NOTE: Form B is to be used only as a Cover Form. Additional information is requested for each of the above as noted in the corresponding procedure in the Policies and Procedures for Initiation, Modification, Review and Approval of Courses and Academic Programs found at <http://www.csus.edu/acaf/univmanual/index.htm>

Briefly describe the program proposal (new or change) and provide a justification.

The proposed change is to the student eligibility requirements for, and to the form of the Plan C Culminating Experience comprehensive examination.

1. Students will no longer be required to have a GPA greater than 3.5, or to have industrial experience, in order to qualify for the comprehensive examination option.
2. They will have to be approved for the Plan C option by one of the elective area faculty advisors and the graduate coordinator.
3. The comprehensive examination will be only in written form, with no oral component.

This change is justified by the following considerations...

1. Our major competitor in the CSU system for EEE graduate students is San Jose State University. In line with what appears to be a national trend in the discipline, it now has a culminating experience comprehensive examination option for the MS degree, which requires no industrial experience qualification and has no oral component. Other campuses in the CSU system with electrical engineering masters programs are gradually following suit, in order to remain competitive.
2. The change in the eligibility requirements is justified by the current high demand by industry for entry-level MS electrical engineers, and their common use of internships to provide those students with relevant industry experience.
3. There is a very high student demand and a very limited support budget for both the faculty workload and technical facilities required by culminating experience plan B. The program cannot support the current percentage of students, who are attempting to graduate under plan B. The proposed plan C changes will make that plan much more attractive to students and reduce the heavy demand for plan B.

Approvals:

Department Chair: _____ **Date:** _____

College Dean: _____ **Date:** 5/1/07

University Committee: _____ **Date:** _____

**Associate Vice President and Dean
for Academic Affairs:** _____ **Date:** _____

NEW PROGRAM

Students opting for Plan C, Comprehensive Exam, must have that option approved by their elective area advisor. They will not receive degree credit for either EEE 201 or EEE 500. They must complete a total of 30 units of approved course work, including core, elective core, and elective courses. They must advance to candidacy for the degree, and take a written comprehensive exam that will cover all of the material in their MS Program of Study. Students who fail may be permitted to retake the exam at its next offering; however, those who fail the exam a second time will not be allowed to continue with the Plan C option. **NB:** It should be recognized that industry puts a high value on project and thesis problem-solving experience, and the demonstration of technical writing skill that these options require. Graduating under the Plan C option will not provide that experience. Students taking this option should consider, with their elective area advisors, other ways of gaining that valuable experience, such as through an EEE 299 Special Problems course.

OLD PROGRAM

Students opting for Plan C, Comprehensive Exam, will not register for either EEE 201 or EEE 500. They must have a minimum GPA of 3.5 and at least one year of relevant industrial experience. They must complete a total of 21 elective units, advance to candidacy for the degree, and take a two-step, comprehensive exam. The first exam is written and covers the material offered in the required core (EEE 244) and the two elective area core courses in the student's program of study. This exam is administered once every semester. Students may take this exam at the time of their advancement to candidacy (after passing the WPE and taking the three required core courses). The second exam is oral and covers the student's elective fields of study. Students are responsible for selecting a committee of three professors from the chosen elective areas and scheduling the oral exam. Students who elect Plan C and who fail the exam (either written or oral) a second time will not be allowed to continue with the Plan C option.

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