Materials linked from the July 28, 2011 Curriculum Council agenda.

TO: Sarah Williams - Curriculum Coordinator in Academic Programs

FROM: David Kim - Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering Undergraduate Program Chair, School of Mechanical, Industrial, and Manufacturing Engineering

DATE: May 20, 2011

SUBJECT: Proposal for new manufacturing engineering course designator.

The School of Mechanical, Industrial, and Manufacturing Engineering (MIME) at Oregon State University is proposing to create a new manufacturing engineering course designator – MFGE. This course designator will be used to identify selected required courses in the undergraduate manufacturing engineering degree curriculum that form the identity of the program. The justification for this new course designator at Oregon State University, and evidence for the appropriateness of the specific designator will be presented next.

1. Justification

Manufacturing Engineering at Oregon State University as an undergraduate degree program has historically been integrated with the industrial engineering program. Integration in this context meant that students meeting the requirements of the manufacturing engineering degree would also meet the industrial engineering degree requirements. Thus from the perspective of enrolled and prospective students, industrial engineering and manufacturing engineering were considered as one program. However, recent manufacturing engineering program changes implemented in Fall 2009 to keep the program industrially relevant and up to date have changed this situation. Manufacturing engineering now stands as a separate undergraduate degree program from industrial engineering.

The creation of a new manufacturing engineering course designator will help existing students identify with their selected degree program, but more importantly it will allow prospective students more accessible information about the nature of the manufacturing engineering curriculum. This latter point is thought to be very important since the school of MIME was formed and manufacturing engineering is being explored as a degree program option by mechanical engineering students.

In addition to better communication about the manufacturing engineering program, having a course designator will allow more course enrollment control. This will become increasingly important in the future since enrollments in manufacturing engineering professional school are rapidly increasing.

2. MFGE as the Course Designator

There are a number of universities that use the MFGE acronym as a course and/or degree program designator. Some of these are:

- University of Illinois, Champaign – course designator,
- North Dakota State University – degree program designator,
- University of Wisconsin, Stout – course designator,
- Texas State University – course designator,
- Ferris State University – course designator.