TO: The Academic Senate

FROM: Committee on Instruction and Curriculum (CIC)

SUBJECT: Proposed New M.S. in Engineering Management

PURPOSE: For Action by the Academic Senate

ACTION REQUESTED: That the Academic Senate Approve the New M.S. Degree in Engineering Management; effective Fall, 2006

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The proposal requires minimal new resources, since the students in the program are expected to fill vacant slots in existing courses (which close at 40 or 50), some of which are “stacked” (for example, ENGR 4200/5200, Systems Simulation, an existing undergraduate course which will now include graduate students). At least initially, faculty will teach the supervision courses, ENGR 6800, Project, and ENGR 6900, Independent Study, with little or no remuneration, on a voluntary basis. Some students in the program are expected to choose to take an examination rather than complete a project, thus reducing the burden on faculty.

One member of CIC was concerned about the program’s quality, in view of the unremunerated increase in faculty work-load and what appeared to be the lack of sufficient faculty resources to give these graduate students (60 of them, once the program reaches full size) much individual attention. Professor Saied Motavalli, Chair of the Engineering Department, assured the committee that the standards would be high and that eventually budget would permit more resources for the program.

This proposal was approved by the Dean of the College of Science and the College of Science Curriculum Committee on June 2, 2004. CIC was assured that it also has the support of the College of Business and Economics, which will offer some of the courses. CIC approved it by a vote of 8-0-0 at its meeting of October 4, 2004.

Because this program creates a new degree, the proposal will have to be approved in the Chancellor’s Office before it returns to campus for final approval.