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MEMORANDUM

Approved 1-20-2009

TO: Director of Undergraduate Studies Committee

FROM: Scott Shearer

DATE: November 2, 2007

RE: Revising the program name for Biosystems & Ag Engineering

In the Department of Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering, the undergraduate program is accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET). All past accreditations have fallen under one criteria, the Agricultural Engineering criteria. Recently, ABET has revised their accreditation criteria and now requires programs with the Agricultural and Biological (or some biological derivative) titles in their program to undergo two separate program accreditations (one with agricultural criteria and one with biological criteria). Hence, the current program title, Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering, will require two separate accreditation reviews. While the review process is necessary, doubling the amount of work to prepare for the accreditation, not to mention to possible increase in the required number of credits necessary to pass both reviews, makes keeping the double title program name a burden for the department. After careful consideration, the Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering Department faculty have recommended that the department revise our program and degree title for our undergraduate program and degree, such that the department will only have to undergo one review, to **Biosystems Engineering**.

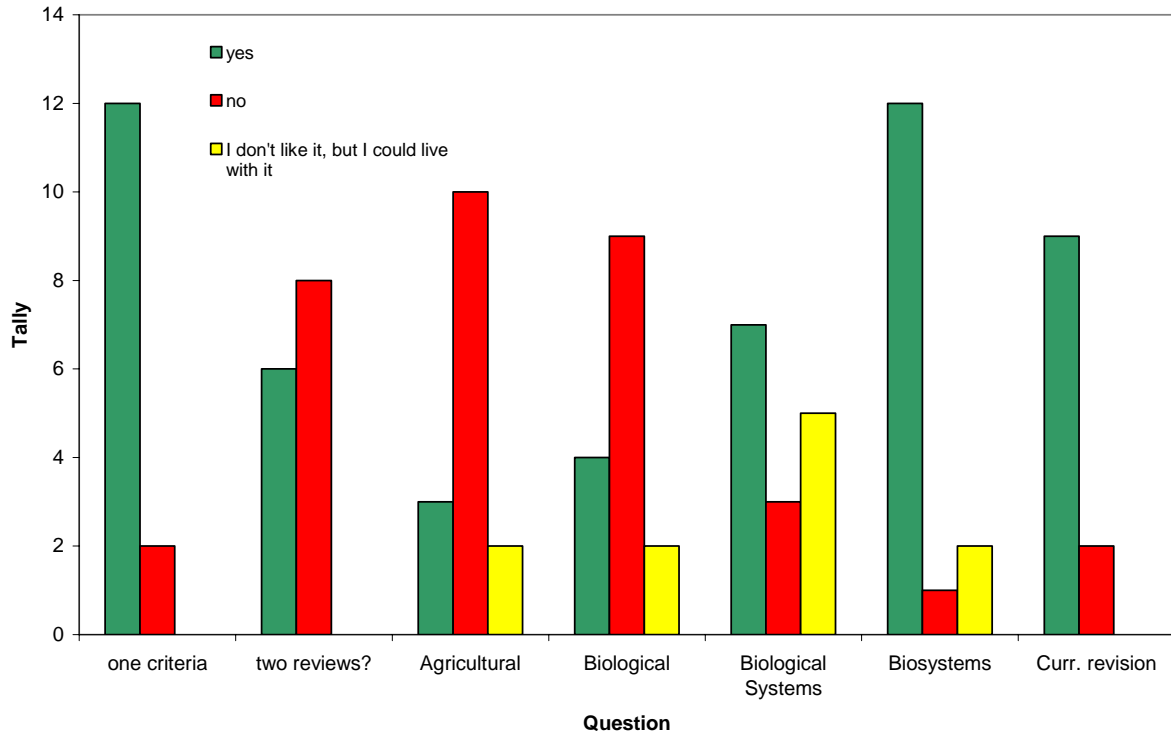
The following changes have also been recommended (each of these changes have accompanying documentation):

Summary of Changes:

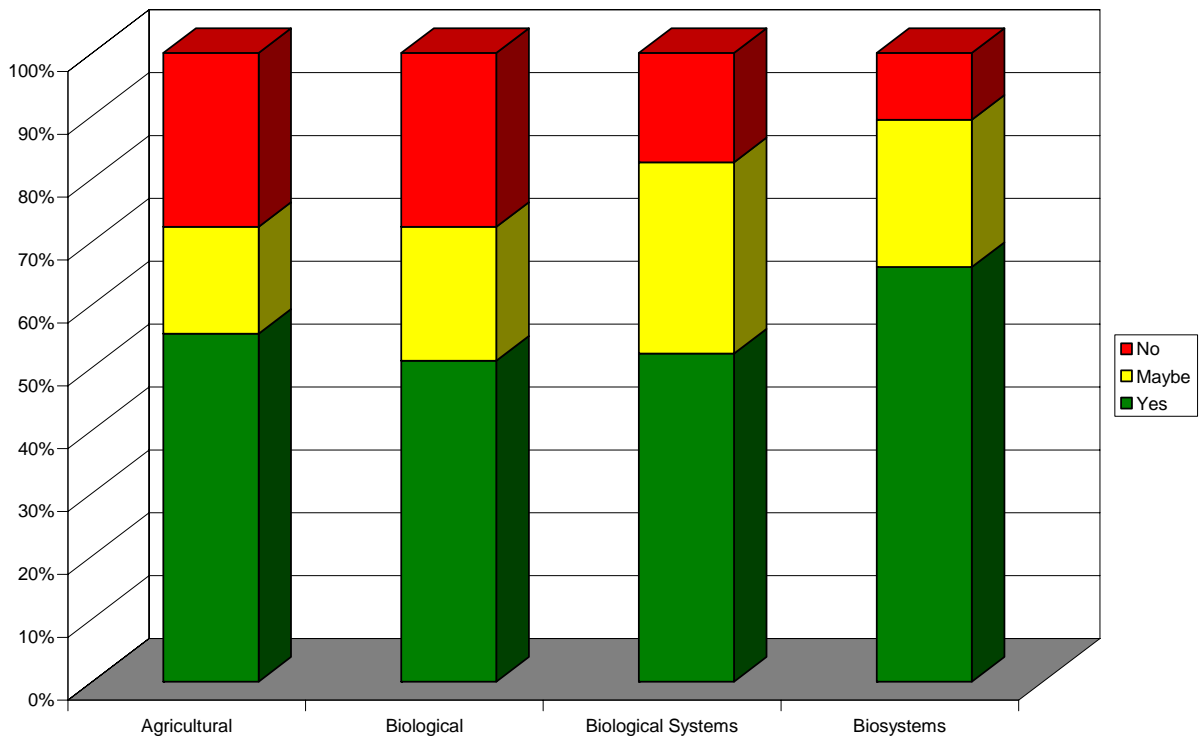
1. Revising the program title to Biosystems Engineering.
2. Dropping the CS 221 requirement and adding a new BAE 206 computational tools class.
3. Dropping CE 341 as a requirement and adding ME 330 as a requirement.
4. Adding BAE 503 Fundamentals of Biorenewable Resource Engineering as a new course.
5. Updating the course titles to reflect the revised program name (BAE 402, 403)
6. Updating the course descriptions to reflect the revised program name (BAE 400, 450)
7. Updating the prerequisites for BAE 402, BAE 435G and BAE 502.

Results from faculty and student surveys about the program name change are included at the end of the suggested program changes.

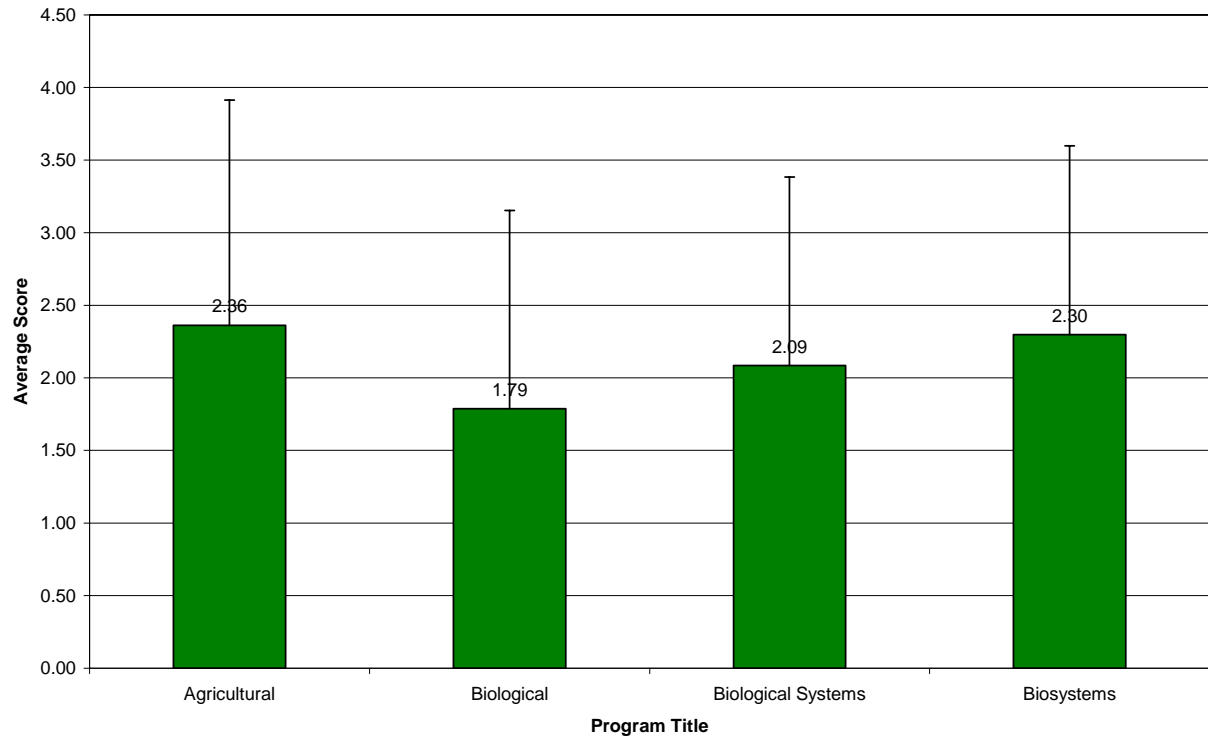
Program Change Faculty Survey Results



Would you pick this major again if the program title was changed to _____ ?



Student Preference



Note: There was no statistical difference between the preference for Agricultural and Biosystems.