Educational Policies Committee Program Proposal, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, January 6, 2012 - Restructure the Department of Engineering and Technology Education

Utah State University

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Section I: Request

Utah State University proposes to restructure the Department of Engineering and Technology Education (ETE) effective Spring Semester 2012. This request contains several elements related to R401-5 including a department name change, program transfers and degree name changes all associated with this restructuring action. These actions are all administrative in nature; no course curriculum or degree requirements will be changed. Utah State University proposes to:

1. Change the name of the Department of Engineering and Technology Education, housed within the College of Engineering, to the Department of Engineering Education, housed within the College of Engineering.

2. Transfer Aviation Technology, including two Bachelor of Science degrees: Bachelor of Science degree in Aviation Technology – Maintenance Management and Bachelor of Science degree in Aviation Technology – Professional Pilot; to the School of Applied Sciences, Technology and Education within the College of Agriculture.

3. Transfer a portion of the Engineering and Technology Education program, including a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering and Technology Education with two emphases and a Master of Science degree program in Engineering and Technology Education, to the School of Applied Sciences, Technology and Education within the College of Agriculture.

4. Change the names of the Engineering and Technology Education B.S. and M.S. degrees to Technology and Engineering Education. The emphases areas in the Bachelors of Science program will be changed to Technology and Engineering Education; and Skilled and Technical Sciences Education.

Section II: Need

The Colleges of Engineering and Agriculture concur that this action is consistent with the missions of the respective colleges.

- The proposed name change - Department of Engineering Education - more correctly reflects the engineering programmatic focus in the College of Engineering. The Engineering Education Department will continue to administer the PhD program in Engineering Education and teach many of the pre-engineering courses on the Logan campus and on the regional campuses.

- The School of Applied Sciences, Technology and Education in the College of Agriculture provides an academic home for aviation technology whose mission is consistent with their primary goals of educating students for careers in the applied sciences and technology areas of aircraft maintenance and as professional pilots.

- The School of Applied Sciences, Technology and Education provides a logical academic home for the degree programs focused upon teacher training for the Career and Technical Education (CTE) area of Technology and Engineering Education. The Utah State Office of
Education recognizes nine areas of CTE at the secondary level. With this change, three of the nine areas - Agriculture, Family and Consumer Sciences, and Technology and Engineering Education - will be administered by the school and provide pre-service and in-service educational opportunities for teachers within these secondary education programs.

- The names of the Bachelor of Science and the Master of Science degrees will be changed from Engineering and Technology Education to Technology and Engineering Education to emphasize the focus on technology. The emphasis areas in the Bachelor of Science program will be changed to Technology and Engineering Education; and Skilled and Technical Sciences Education. This name will align the degree programs with the Utah State Office of Education’s CTE program area for which the teachers are being trained.

“Technology and Engineering Education is committed to preparing students for employment and/or continuing education opportunities by teaching them to understand, design, produce, use, and manage the human-made world in order to contribute and function in a technological society.” – Utah State Office of Education

This name is also nationally recognized and is typical for teacher training programs as indicated by the International Technology and Engineering Educators Association (ITEEA), a professional organization with which the faculty is aligned.

Section III: Institutional Impact

The department name change more clearly identifies USU as one of the pre-eminent programs in the emerging area of engineering education. USU was among the first three programs in the country to offer a PhD in Engineering Education. Many of the faculty members within the proposed Department of Engineering Education have funding from the National Science Foundation to study the learning and teaching of engineering with special focus on pre-engineering courses.

The program transfers and the degree name changes provide an administrative home for programs focused upon teacher training in a CTE area as well as degree programs preparing students for technology-based careers. It is not anticipated the restructuring will have any negative impacts on student enrollment.

Section IV: Finances

This restructuring action will not require any new physical facilities or fiscal resources as facilities and resources will remain constant with their respective programs.