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University of Hawaiʻi
Code Request Form for Academic Programs
NEW OR MODIFIED SUBJECT CODE

Date: _____

REQUESTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Name _____   Campus _____

Title _____   Email _____

Office/Dept _____   Phone _____

☐ **NEW SUBJECT CODE USE AT INSTITUTION**

☐ **MODIFY SUBJECT CODE USE AT INSTITUTION**

Institution _____   Effective Term _____

		Code (Max. Characters)	**Description** (30 characters max)	**Check if requesting new code:**
College	(2)			☐ See Banner form STVCOLL
Division	(4)			☐ See Banner form STVDIVS
Department	(4)			☐ See Banner form STVDEPT
Subject	(4)			☐ See Banner form STVSUBJ

For Community Colleges, select one:
General & Pre-Professional (GPP) or
Career & Technical (CTE)

Explain the reason for the new subject code (i.e. - replacing an existing subject code (specify), revised name, new program, ...):

_____

ATTACHMENTS

☐ Memo with appropriate campus approval (i.e. Campus Curriculum Committee, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, etc.)

VERIFICATIONS

Registrar:

_____   _____   _____
Print Name   Signature   Date

Financial Aid Officer:

_____   _____   _____
Print Name   Signature   Date

For Community Colleges, verification of consultation with OVPCC Academic Affairs:

_____   _____   _____
Print Name   Signature   Date

DTS 23629

Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

GÜRDAL ARSLAN
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR & GRADUATE CHAIR
phone: 808-456-3432
email: gurdal@hawaii.edu

June 2, 2023

MEMORANDUM

TO:	David Lassner President
	VIA: Debora Halbert Vice President for Academic Strategy
VIA:	Michael Bruno Provost _(signature)_ for Michael Bruno
VIA:	Laura E. Lyons Interim Vice Provost for Academic Excellence
VIA:	Julienne K. Maeda Interim Dean, Graduate Division
VIA:	Brennon Morioka Dean, College of Engineering
VIA:	Wayne Shiroma Department Chair, Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Engineering
FROM:	Gurdal Arslan Graduate Chair, Electrical Engineering
SUBJECT:	Name Changes for Electrical Engineering Graduate Program and Degrees

Digitally signed by
Gurdal Arslan
Date: 2023.06.05
20:38:57 +03'00'

SPECIFIC ACTIONS REQUESTED:

It is requested that the President approve a course subject code change and a graduate degree name change from Electrical Engineering to Electrical and Computer Engineering for the MS and PhD degrees.

RECOMMENDED EFFECTIVE DATE: Fall 2024 semester.

ADDITIONAL COST: No additional cost.

BACKGROUND/PURPOSE:

In Fall 2021, the department changed its name from Electrical Engineering to Electrical and Computer Engineering. The reason for this name change was that Electrical and Computer Engineering more appropriately describes the subject matters of interest to our faculty and the degree programs of our students given the department's strong focus on the computer engineering topics such as cybersecurity, ubiquitous computing, machine learning, and data science. At that time, the graduate degrees (MS and PhD in EE) were not changed because the department's focus was on the undergraduate program and the potential repercussions of changing the graduate degree names had not been yet considered. At this time, we would like to request the MS and PhD degree names match the department name of Electrical and Computer Engineering. This name change aligns our MS and PhD in ECE with similar graduate programs elsewhere and does not require any additional resources.

This request also includes a course subject code change for all department courses from EE to ECE. This change was not requested when the department name was changed because of the incremental approach taken by the department to update and align its programs with similar programs in the US while ensuring that such changes do not have unintended consequences. At this point, as in the case of graduate degree names, the department is confident that the subject code change would better reflect the contents of the courses taught in our program and does not require any additional resources.

SPECIFIC CHANGES:

Change the graduate degrees from a MS and PhD in Electrical Engineering (EE) to:
- MS and PhD in Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE)

Change course subject code from EE to ECE

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

It is recommended that the President approve a course subject code change and a graduate degree name change from Electrical Engineering to Electrical and Computer Engineering for the MS and PhD degrees.

Reviewed by CCAO 7/19/23, VCAAs consulted with respective campuses, no concerns received.

APPROVED/DISAPPROVED:.

_____

David Lassner, President   Date

_____   _____

cc:
April Quinn, Interim Vice Provost for Global Engagement & Director of Program
Development and Review
Pheng Xiong, University Registrar

Attachments:

UNIVERSITY
of HAWAI'I®

MĀNOA

March 15, 2021

MEMORANDUM

TO: Michael Bruno
           Provost

VIA: Laura E. Lyons
           Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

VIA: Brennon Morioka
           Dean, College of Engineering

FROM: Wayne Shiroma
           Chair, Department of Electrical Engineering

SUBJECT: PROPOSED NAME CHANGE FROM DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING
                   TO DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING

SPECIFIC ACTION REQUESTED

It is requested that the Provost approve a name change of the Department of Electrical Engineering to the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering within the College of Engineering, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

RECOMMENDED EFFECTIVE DATE

Fall 2021

ADDITIONAL COST

There are minimal costs dealing with stationery and web changes.

PURPOSE

The faculty of the Department of Electrical Engineering, College of Engineering, requests to change the name of our department to the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. The name change more appropriately describes the subject matters of interest to our faculty and the degree programs of our students, which include the Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering and Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Engineering. The name change does not involve any modifications to the degree requirements for our undergraduate and graduate programs.

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An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution

Electrical engineering courses have been taught at the University of Hawaiʻi since the 1910s[1]. The Department of Electrical Engineering was formed in 1959 with a baccalaureate degree program. The first graduating class received the BS degree in 1961. Our MS degree program started in 1963, and our PhD degree program started in 1966. The first PhD degree in electrical engineering was granted in 1969[2].

In June 1971, a group of electrical engineering faculty under the leadership of Dr. Norman Abramson successfully demonstrated ALOHANET – the first wireless packet data network that led directly to the development of Ethernet and personal wireless communication technologies. Fifty years later, ALOHANET is one of the most celebrated achievements in electrical engineering, and is the primary one that put the University of Hawaii's Department of Electrical Engineering on the map.

Since then, the Department built on that early foundation, expanding its teaching and research activities to computers (algorithms, security, networking, hardware, and software), electro-physics (solid-state devices and sensors, analog, circuit design, and microwaves and photonics), and systems and data science (telecommunications, automatic controls, signal and image processing, and machine learning). Over 50% of our 18 faculty are specialists in the computer and systems and data science areas.

Notable programs include the $5 million NSF CyberCorps Scholarship for Service Program (SFS); the NSA/DHS National Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense Research (CAE-R); and UHM's participation in the $25 million NSF Center for Science of Information (focusing on big data, information theory, and machine learning).

The Case for a Name Change

For most of its history, the Department had only one baccalaureate degree program: the BS Electrical Engineering, with three tracks in computers, electro-physics, and systems. In 2010, the computer track transitioned into the BS Computer Engineering program and soon became the College of Engineering's most rapidly growing degree program. In 2016, ABET retroactively accredited the BS Computer Engineering degree program. A considerable percentage of our Department's Outstanding Graduating Seniors has in fact been computer engineering majors[3], and several have secured jobs at Fortune 500 companies such as Apple, Microsoft, Google, and Amazon.

Given the Department's two accredited baccalaureate degree programs, and its strong focus on cybersecurity, ubiquitous computing, machine learning, and data science, we believe we have a strong case for renaming our department as the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering.

In fact, UH Mānoa has eight peer and nine benchmark institutions, of which six of the peer and six of the benchmark institutions already have Electrical and Computer Engineering departments. Our renaming request is consistent with the majority of these institutions.

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[1] https://www.eng.hawaii.edu/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/historyengineering.pdf
[2] https://ee.hawaii.edu/student/index.php?stc=2, https://www.eng.hawaii.edu/about/history/
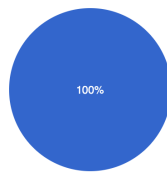[3] http://ee.hawaii.edu/events/index.php?ect=9

There are no conflicts with names and primary interests in other departments at UH Mānoa. Computer science faculty and students are in the Department of Information and Computer Sciences (ICS). It should be noted that the peer and benchmark institutions that have Electrical and Computer Engineering departments also have Computer Science departments, Information and Computer Sciences departments, or Computer Science and Engineering departments/schools.

During the period March 10–12, 2021, polls were conducted amongst the Department's faculty and students. The results below show overwhelming support for the name change.

Are you in favor of the UH Manoa Department of Electrical Engineering changing its name to the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering?
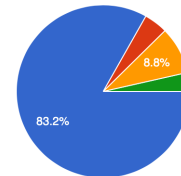
18 responses

113 responses

- Yes
- No
- Undecided
- Other - use the comments section below

100%

83.2%

8.8%

Responses from EE faculty and staff   Responses from EE students

BACKGROUND

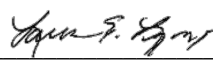*Pursuant to Board of Regents Policy, RP 5.201 Instructional Programs*

> *G. Naming of Programs (Cross reference RP 11.203)*
>> *1. Programs are given a name at the time they are approved by the board. Thereafter, the president may approve changes in the functional names of academic programs and credentials as may become necessary to remain current with the terminology and focus of their fields and which involve no significant change in the program requirements.*
>> *2. No program shall be given a name to honor a person without approval of the board.*

ACTION RECOMMENDED

It is recommended that the Provost approve a name change of the Department of Electrical Engineering to the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering within the College of Engineering, University of Hawaiʻi at Mānoa.

APPROVED / DISAPPROVED

_____ for Michael Bruno   9 April 2021
Signature   Date
Michael Bruno, Provost

UNIVERSITY
of HAWAI'I·
SYSTEM

March 24, 2021

TO: Michael Bruno
           Provost

FROM: Michael Ng   Michael Ng
           Budget Director

SUBJECT: Requested Change in Name from Department of Electrical Engineering to
           Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

This is in response to the March 15, 2021 request to change the name of the
Department of Electrical Engineering to the Department of Electrical and Computer
Engineering.

Per the referenced APM A3.101.9 consultation request, the University Budget Office is
of the opinion that the proposed change in the organizational segment title presented in
the above referenced Memorandum does not duplicate and will not be confused with
the title of any other organization or unit within the University.

If you have any questions, please contact me at ng23@hawaii.edu or 956-7323. Thank
you.

Attachment

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