

Resolution to Create a STEM School at CCSU

Whereas STEM education is based on the idea that the disciplines of science, technology, engineering and math are interdependent and their boundaries permeable;

And whereas effective STEM education is grounded in a broad and comprehensive liberal arts education;

And whereas STEM education is more responsive to the needs of industry and to the evolution of technology than a narrow undergraduate specialization in a single traditional discipline;

And whereas the shortage of STEM educated students limits our state's ability to compete, and new educational models must be set up to address both the shortage and the needs of the workforce itself;

Be it resolved that the CCSU Faculty Senate endorses the creation of a STEM School at CCSU that will be comprised of the following ten departments: Biology, Biomolecular Sciences, Chemistry and Biochemistry, Computer Science, Computer Electronics and Graphics Technology, Engineering, Manufacturing and Construction Management, Mathematical Sciences, Physics and Earth Science, and Technology & Engineering Education.

Be it further resolved that the new School will endeavor to:

- Provide premier undergraduate and graduate programs in engineering, technology, computing, life and physical sciences, and mathematics
- Assure its students the grounding in literacy, numeracy, critical thinking, and liberal arts education necessary for success in the workforce and in society
- Offer a flexible and diverse curriculum that will focus on bridging the boundaries between disciplines and devote attention to disciplinary interfaces where, increasingly, the most important and exciting discoveries are being made
- Provide a technology-rich learning environment that offers students a rewarding academic experience through experiential and active learning
- Partner with local industries to offer students real-world problem-solving work experience, applied research, and technical leadership
- Serve a student population that mirrors the diversity of the region and includes many international students
- Develop a skilled STEM workforce of qualified engineers, scientists, and STEM educators that will allow our state to enjoy a leadership position in research and development and in economic competitiveness

Be it further resolved that if the proposed new School is approved by the Board of Regents, its constituent departments will appoint a Steering Committee of representatives to develop recommendations and plans for addressing such practical considerations as naming the new School, reallocating budgets, ensuring

IT and administrative support, modifying webpages, and publicizing the new School. The Steering Committee will seek input from different constituencies affected by the formation of the new School, and shall complete its charge by the end of the spring 2014 semester.

Be it further resolved that in conjunction with the work of the Steering Committee, the relevant Faculty Senate committees will maintain oversight in their areas of authority and will make necessary adjustments in committee bylaws to reflect the redistribution of faculty among academic schools.

Be it further resolved that budgetary matters related to the creation of the new School will take effect at the beginning of the fiscal year, July 1, 2014, and other recommendations regarding the creation of the new School will take effect by the beginning of the 2014-15 Academic Year.