

HARVARD UNIVERSITY
Faculty of Arts and Sciences

MOVED,

That the name of the Division of Engineering and Applied Sciences be changed to the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, within the Faculty of Arts and Sciences.

Explanatory Note:

The conversion of the Division of Engineering and Applied Sciences (DEAS) to the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences is an evolutionary step following the renewal and growth of DEAS over the past decade. As a school, engineering and applied sciences will be more visible within and outside Harvard.¹ External visibility will help the School attract top faculty and students at a time when most engineering programs in the country, already larger than Harvard's, are recruiting heavily. (DEAS currently has about 70 FTE faculty members. Growth to about 100 FTEs is anticipated over the next ten years to allow the School to fill intellectual holes in existing disciplines and to develop critical mass in key areas. At this size, the School will be comparable in scale to its closest peers such as Princeton and Caltech.² Such growth will also enable the School to strengthen its presence in specific emerging research areas such as biologically-inspired engineering, energy & environmental technologies, and computation and society.) Success in the recruitment of suitable faculty and students is essential for meeting the School's goals of transformative education, research, and practice. At the same time, the School intends to maintain the essential elements of the DEAS tradition: a strong commitment to teaching in addition to high-quality basic and applied research fostered by an interdisciplinary, boundary-less, culture.

The School of Engineering and Applied Sciences will maintain its academic linkages to FAS. The DEAS tradition of teaching undergraduates outside the Division, joint faculty appointments, and research collaborations will continue. Undergraduates studying in the School will continue to be admitted by and enrolled in Harvard College; its graduate students will be enrolled in GSAS. Faculty in the School will continue to teach courses for the broader undergraduate population. (One-third of the faculty members in DEAS now have joint appointments, with particularly strong linkages to Physics and Earth & Planetary Sciences. New linkages and collaborations are expected with FAS-Biology, Chemistry, and

¹ It should be noted that virtually all major engineering programs in the country (including most of the Ivies) reside in "schools" of engineering.

² Engineering and Applied Sciences at Princeton has about 125 faculty members and at Caltech about 100; both programs have plans to grow their faculty in the next few years. Just for comparison, the engineering school at MIT has 360 faculty members, Cornell has 250, and Stanford has 210.

parts of the social sciences and humanities as well as with certain professional schools.) The School will also continue to work closely with the FAS' academic offices on issues such as faculty and student recruitment. For all of these reasons, the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences will be a "school within a school" rather than an entity independent of FAS. On non-academic administrative issues, however, DEAS' historical autonomy (in finance, research administration, and other operational issues) is expected to be enhanced; DEAS, FAS and the Central Administration are working together to manage this process.

The Lawrence Scientific School (the institutional and intellectual progenitor of DEAS) was established in 1847 at Harvard in order to train scientists and engineers. The School of Engineering and Applied Sciences should be thought of as the Lawrence School reborn, but in a new form appropriate for the 21st century. Moreover, a stronger engineering and applied sciences program will be key to fostering advances in the natural sciences, increasing benefits in the social sciences and humanities, and adding to the educational curriculum for undergraduates at the College.

To be a great global university, our research and educational programs must match the changing needs of the times and meet the challenges posed by the future. Enhancing our engineering and applied sciences program and transforming DEAS to a School of Engineering and Applied Sciences should be seen as integral to this goal.