

MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 29, 2011

FROM: Bennie J. Wilson III, College of Business
Chairperson, Academic Policy & Requirements (AP&R) Committee

THRU: Academic Policy & Requirements (AP&R) Committee
Andrey Chabanov, College of Sciences
Anuradha Roy, College of Business
Clyde Phelix, College of Sciences
James Balentine, College of Liberal and Fine Arts
Kimberly Bilica, College of Education and Human Development
Patricia McGee, College of Education and Human Development
Randy Manteufel, College of Engineering
Richard Lewis, College of Liberal and Fine Arts
Rolando Quintana, College of Business
Sandy Norman, College of Sciences
Seok Kang, College of Liberal and Fine Arts

TO: Carola Wenk, College of Sciences
Chairperson, UTSA Faculty Senate

SUBJECT: Proposal for Admission Policy for BS Degree in Biomedical Engineering

The Committee recommends approving the proposed Admission Policy for BS Degree in Biomedical Engineering (attached). The voting process & results were:

- 12 – Number of voting-eligible committee members
- 9 - Number of members who voted (excludes chair unless to break tie vote)
- 7 – Quorum required to conduct vote
- 7 – Number voting for the proposal
- 2 – Number voting against the proposal
- 0 – Number abstaining

I certify that these results are accurate.

April 14, 2011

MEMORANDUM

TO: Faculty Senate

FROM: Lawrence R. Williams *L.R.W.*
Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Studies

SUBJECT: Proposal for Admission Policy for Bachelor of Science degree in Biomedical Engineering

Please review and consider for approval the attached proposal from the Department of Biomedical Engineering for an admission policy for the Bachelor of Science degree in Biomedical Engineering. The proposal has been approved by the Department of Biomedical Engineering and the College of Engineering.

I have reviewed the proposal and endorse it for approval.

Proposal for BME Admission

First time full-time freshman admitted as a biomedical engineering major must meet the minimum admission criteria of the UTSA's College of Engineering admission criteria. These criteria are:

- Students must meet all UTSA admission requirements;
- Students must have credit for MAT 1214 Calculus I OR completed all necessary prerequisites to enroll in MAT 1214 Calculus I (through a mathematics placement test or credit for MAT 1093 Precalculus or an equivalent);

In addition, all students applying for admission to the Biomedical Engineering program must submit the following to the Department:

- two letters of recommendations; and
- a statement of their interests, professional career goals, and how the Biomedical Engineering program will help achieve them;

All transfer students must meet the aforementioned minimum admission requirements for the College of Engineering and the Biomedical Engineering Program. Transfer students must include completion of at least 15 semester credit hours of mathematics, science, or engineering courses, and have an overall GPA of a 3.0 or better.

Students meeting the above criteria will be considered for admission into the Biomedical Engineering program by a holistic review by the Department of Biomedical Engineering.

Rationales for the above BME Admission Criteria

Biomedical Engineering is a popular program for many students interested in research as well as admissions to the medical and dental schools. Given the limited number of BME faculty (currently 8 faculty in the BME Department), there is a need to limit the number of students enrolled in the program. The program will take a holistic approach for admitting incoming high school students to biomedical engineering, and this approach will include class ranking, course preparations, recommendation letters, SAT scores, and personal statements. Admission criteria will be similar to the College of Engineering, including the requirement to be enrolled in MAT 1214 Calculus I or higher.

Additionally, transfer students will be required to achieve an overall GPA of a 3.0 or better. This requirement stems from the knowledge that a majority of biomedical engineering students want to pursue advanced degrees (graduate schools and health professions), and that the BME program needs to ensure that our graduating students are competitive in their pursuit to advanced degrees.