New MS Degree in Engineering and Tuition Cost Sharing Model

Based upon approval from the Provost in Spring 2009, in Fall 2009 Engineering introduced a new 2-year MS degree. This was approved in order to extend the revenue model of the MEng degree to those departments that find the MEng degree difficult to implement because they cannot easily use the team teaching approach at the masters level.

What it is.

The new MS program is a 2-year course and research degree with expectation of an MS thesis. It does not have the rigor nor the time expectations of the PhD degree. Nevertheless, all participants are expected to take at least 4 graduate courses and carry out research of a publishable quality. Students will be self-funded, and are not expected to serve as teaching assistants. Each graduate field will be expected to come up with its course and graduation expectations and communicate them to both the Graduate School and the College of Engineering.

What it is not.

This is not intended as a route to pass into the MS/PhD program. Research grants will not be used to support students in the MS program. If research grants are used to support the student, then there will be no revenue sharing and the student will be considered to be in the MS/PhD program. Students should not be kept in this program more than 2 years.

Tuition and revenue sharing.

We will adopt the same model used in the MEng program in the College of Engineering. Tuition is charged at the Graduate Student Research Degree rate. The university will retain approximately 20% of the tuition (in 2009-10 tuition is $29,500) and the College of Engineering will receive the remainder (currently $23,600). The net revenue will be shared between the College of Engineering and the departments in the same proportion as the current MEng model (65 college/35 department). Departments will be encouraged to use these funds to enhance graduate education, for example, as funds for fellowships for the MS/PhD program.