Proposal for an Undergraduate Program in Biomedical Engineering

Cornell University Faculty Senate
December 11, 2013
Why a BME Degree? Why Now?

• Student demand
  – BME is #1 in “Hot College Majors That Lead to Jobs” (USNWR 9/10/13)
  – BME is #1 in “Best Jobs in America” (CNN 11/12/13)
  – Consistent interest from applicants in bio-related engineering

• Peer institutions
  – Vast majority of peers offer BS in BME/BE
    • 13 out of top 15 colleges of engineering (exc. Cornell and CalTech)
    • 6 out of 8 Ivies (exc. Cornell and Princeton)
    • 18 out of 20 Big 10+ (exc. Cornell and Nebraska)

• Diversity
  – Nationally BME attracts female and URM students
Program Objectives

• Prepare BS graduates for professional practice, graduate study, or professional medical study
• Support strategic objectives of CoE and University
  – Bio-related engineering, connections to WCMC, Cornell NYC Tech
• Address national need for BMEs
  – NBLS report: 16,000 BMEs needed by 2020 → exceeds collective capacity of top 25 programs
• Enhance ability of CoE to attract students from diverse backgrounds and those with bio-interests
Timeline for Cornell BS in BME

2013

September
Directors & Chairs

October
Meet with Departments

November
CCGB

December
CoE Faculty Meeting

2014

January
CU Board of Trustees

February
Faculty Senate

March
Proposal to Dean of Faculty (11/24)

April
External Review

NYS BHE

Goal: Start affiliating sophomores in Fall 2015
Alternate Timeline

2013

September

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October

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CCGB

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CoE Faculty Meeting

2014

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CU Board of Trustees

March

External Review

April

Proposal to Dean of Faculty (11/24)

April – May 2014

NYS BHE (June 2014)

Goal: Start affiliating sophomores in Fall 2015??