FS P&BC Report to FS APC (07/16/2024)
on Proposed new PhD in Translational Bioengineering (TE)
in the Speed School of Engineering (SSoE)

Overview (taken from formal Proposal and Budget spreadsheet):

The Translational Bioengineering PhD program is designed to provide multidisciplinary training in translational bioengineering preparing students to lead research and development in academia, industry, and governmental agencies and/or to advance bioengineering technologies through start-up companies as entrepreneurs or within established biomedical companies. The intended audience includes applicants interested in a PhD degree in Bioengineering that have a minimum of a Bachelor's Degree in Engineering from an accredited program, or similar field such as Medical Physics. This proposal represents an administrative transfer of an existing Interdisciplinary PhD program of the same title from the Graduate School to the Speed School.

Assessment:

The proposed PhD degree program includes 2 years of course enrollment at 24 credit-hours per year (3 semesters per year) and 3 years of candidacy registration (with no unit tuition revenue) in which the student completes a Dissertation and submission of 3 manuscripts for professional journal consideration within 5 calendar years.

The proposed budget is submitted as an “incremental budget” which does not include the current cost of instruction nor the current tuition revenue for the interdisciplinary degree since the courses will remain the same with the same faculty teachers and same funding sources.

The proposed budget assumes increased student enrollment (4 transfer first-year students for one summer semester in year 1 and then 4 added new students starting in fall of year 2, then 5 new students per year thereafter). The budget includes excess course capacity to handle the increased enrollment until year 3 when Graduate Teaching Assistants will be used for added course sections without addition of new faculty.

The unit revenue sources include commitment of one University fellowship position with tuition remission by the Graduate School, and one Engineering fellowship with tuition remission from a currently endowed Engineering source.

Comments:

The P&BC finds that this proposed PhD degree program (TE) is most likely to be a profitable operation for the SSoE with little chance that it will become a net-cost operation since the 3rd - year proposed GTA is contingent on the program meeting enrollment projections.

Pat
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Chair of the FS Planning & Budget Committee

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