

## VII. STANDING COMMITTEES

## A. Academic and Student Affairs Committee

UW Bothell: Consolidation of the Computing and Software Systems Program and the Science and Technology Program into the School of Science, Technology, Engineering, and MathematicsRECOMMENDED ACTION

It is the recommendation of the administration and the Academic and Student Affairs Committee that the Computing and Software Systems Program and the Science and Technology Program be consolidated into a single School of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics.

It is further recommended that the Divisions of Computing and Software Systems, Biological Sciences, Engineering and Mathematics, and Physical Sciences be created as appointing units within the School of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics.

JUSTIFICATION FOR PROPOSED ACTIONS

The proposed programmatic consolidation and creation of the School of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics was presented to Provost Ana Mari Cauce by Chancellor Kenyon Chan with his endorsement after extensive deliberation and endorsement by the faculty of the Computing and Software Systems Program and the Science and Technology Program. The proposal was also submitted for campus review, which included a 30-day comment period, and review by the General Faculty Organization Executive Council, and the Academic Council. The proposal was developed as part of the University of Washington Bothell's plan to transition to a more recognizable and effective academic administrative structure.

Guided by the *21<sup>st</sup> Century Campus Initiative* strategic plan, the School of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics is designed to build on existing strengths and facilitate increased collaboration among faculty, staff, and students in curriculum, research, and community partnerships. By integrating most of UW Bothell's STEM faculty into a single unit, it is envisioned that consolidation will:

- Strategically orient the campus' STEM activities around a common set of goals, priorities, and values;
- Increase the visibility and availability of STEM curricula and research at UW Bothell for future students and academic stakeholders;

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### A. Academic and Student Affairs Committee

#### Consolidation of the Computing and Software Systems Program and the Science and Technology Program into the School of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (continued p. 2)

- Efficiently support future campus growth given proposed changes to administrative and fiscal structure;
- Encourage and reward collaboration among STEM faculty within and across disciplines;
- Enhance capacity for interdisciplinary, collaborative research endeavors for faculty and students; and
- Create opportunities for innovation in curriculum that optimizes efficiency and student access.

#### REVIEW PROCESS

Following University of Washington “Reorganization, Consolidation, and Elimination Procedures” (Faculty Code Section 26-41), Provost Cauce referred the matter for discussion to the Senate Committee on Planning and Budgeting. Because the consolidation of Computing and Software Systems Program and the Science and Technology Program will not result in the elimination of any degrees; removal of tenured faculty, or of untenured faculty before the completion of their contract; a significant change in the terms and conditions of employment of the faculty; a significant change to the overall curriculum of the University of Washington Bothell; or a significant departure from the University of Washington Bothell’s mission, the review was evaluated under the provisions governing “Limited Reorganization.” The voting faculty members of these two programs were notified of the process to seek a full review of the reorganization by the Secretary of the Faculty. No petition for further review was submitted to Provost Cauce. Therefore, having considered the proposed programmatic consolidation using a process consistent with the rules promulgated for reorganizations under the Faculty Code, Provost Cauce supports the consolidation of the Computing and Software Systems Program and the Science and Technology Program into the School of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics, effective March 16, 2013. It is further supported by Chancellor Chan and Provost Cauce that this new School be organized with four appointing Divisions (Computing and Software Systems, Biological Sciences, Engineering and Mathematics, and Physical Sciences), with responsibility for the educational, administrative, personnel, and budget affairs of the unit.

#### *Attachment*

1. Official memo to Provost Cauce from Chancellor Chan



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OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

TO: Ana Mari Cauce, Provost and Executive Vice President  
University of Washington

FROM: Kenyon Chan, Chancellor   
University of Washington Bothell

DATE: December 14, 2012

SUBJECT: Formation of the UW Bothell School of Science, Technology, Engineering,  
and Mathematics (STEM) and recognition of appointment units

On November 14, 2012, UW Bothell completed the Limited RCEP process for the Computing and Software Systems Program and the Science and Technology Program to reorganize as a School of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM).

Based on this process, I am writing to affirm my endorsement of the formation of the new School of STEM and to further recommend recognition of four Divisions as appointing units within the School. These Divisions are: Biological Sciences, Computing and Software Systems, Engineering and Mathematics, and Physical Sciences. These Divisions are intended to function as departments and will operate in compliance with campus-level and university policies and procedures, including processes related to personnel and academic matters.

I look forward to working with you on the next step in establishing the School of STEM at UW Bothell. The new School will support continued growth in these fields and for the campus as a whole, as envisioned in the *21<sup>st</sup> Century Campus Initiative*.