Notice of Change form

Notice of Change for: Electrical Engineering Graduate Program

Date: November 8, 2018

A. PROGRAM INFORMATION

1. Name of institution
   University of Rhode Island

2. Name of department, division, school or college
   Department: Electrical, Computer and Biomedical Engineering
   College: College of Engineering

3. Intended initiation date of program change. Include anticipated date for granting first degrees or certificates, if appropriate.
   Initiation date: Fall 2019 semester
   First degree date: not applicable

4. Intended location of the program
   Current location (temporary): URI at Schneider Electric;
   Permanent location: new Engineering building (upon completion)

5. Summary description of proposed program (not to exceed 2 pages).
   see attached

6. If applicable, please include the existing URI catalog language and proposed catalog changes indicated in Track Changes.
   see attached

7. Signature of the President

___________________________________________
David M. Dooley
Summary description:

The two proposed changes affect only the Electrical Engineering (ELE) graduate program requirements.

The first proposed change requires all full-time graduate students (MS and PhD) to enroll in ELE 601 Graduate Seminar (1 credit) every semester the course is offered (typically the fall semester). This change emphasizes the need for life-long learning and exposes graduate students to problems, research, and solutions that may be outside their area of expertise.

The second proposed change affects only the non-thesis MS program when students choose to pass a written comprehensive examination as the Graduate School’s required “culminating experience.” Currently the non-thesis MS program degree requirements for the comprehensive examination option include “…one course involving significant independent research and a substantial paper…” This proposal eliminates the “significant independent research” course and “substantial paper” requirements. Since students opting for the comprehensive examination typically continue graduate study toward a PhD, these students will conduct independent research and write substantial papers as part of their PhD work.

URI catalog language:

In the Graduate Program Description, Electrical Engineering, “Master of Science (M.S.)” section and “Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)” section, append the new language:

All full-time graduate students are required to enroll in ELE 601 every semester the course is offered.

In the Graduate Program Description, Electrical Engineering, Master of Science:

The “Program Requirements” paragraph includes the language:

“For the non-thesis option, either a) successful completion of ELE 598 Masters Project, or b) a written comprehensive examination and one course involving significant independent research and a substantial paper is required.”

Under this proposal, this language will be changed to:

“For the non-thesis option, either a) successful completion of ELE 598 Masters Project, or b) a written comprehensive examination is required.”