

THE  
UNIVERSITY  
OF RHODE ISLAND  
FACULTY SENATE OFFICE

Green Hall, 35 Campus Avenue, Kingston, RI 02881 USA p: 401.874.2616



Serial Number #17-18-14B

TO: President David Dooley  
FROM: Mark Conley, Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

1. The attached BILL titled, Curricular Report No. 2017-18-4 from the Graduate Council to the Faculty Senate: Curricular Changes, is forwarded for your consideration.
2. This BILL was adopted by vote of the Faculty Senate on December 7, 2017.
3. After considering this bill, will you please indicate your approval or disapproval. Return the original, completing the appropriate endorsement below.
4. In accordance with Section 10, paragraph 4 of the Senate's By-Laws, this bill will become effective December 28, 2017 three weeks after Senate approval, unless: (1) specific dates for implementation are written into the bill; (2) you return it disapproved; or (3) the University Faculty petitions for a referendum.

Mark Conley  
Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

December 7, 2017

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ENDORSEMENT

TO: Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

FROM: President of the University

- a. Approved ☒.
- b. Approved subject to Notice of the Council on Postsecondary Education \_\_\_\_.
- c. Disapproved \_\_\_\_.

Signature of the President

12-5-18  
(date)

## **Graduate Curriculum Committee Report # 4 November 2017**

### **Notice of Change:**

Ocean Engineering is dropping the comprehensive exams for its non-thesis master's program.

**Notice of Change form**

**Notice of Change for:** Elimination of the comprehensive exam requirement for non-thesis M.S. degree in accordance with the new Graduate School requirements.

**Date:** 11/20/17

**A. PROGRAM INFORMATION**

**1. Name of institution**

University of Rhode Island

**2. Name of department, division, school or college**

Department: Ocean 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 2017  
First degree date: December 2017

**4. Intended location of the program**

URI, Narragansett Bay Campus

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

Per the Graduate School: "In January 2017, the Graduate Council approved a change in policy regarding comprehensive exams. Comprehensive exams for non-thesis Master's students are now optional. A culminating experience (determined by the Graduate Program) is required for all non-thesis masters' programs."

Students enrolled in the non-thesis M.S. program in Ocean Engineering will still be required to complete a "culminating experience" by enrolling in one course requiring a paper involving significant independent study. This is typically a special problems course (OCE 591/592).

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

*Program requirements:* the thesis option requires 30 credits with a minimum of 12 credits of course work in ocean engineering and nine credits for thesis research. The nonthesis option requires permission of the chair and a total of 30 credits with a minimum of 18 credits of course work in ocean engineering, with one course requiring a paper involving significant independent study ~~and a written comprehensive examination~~. EGR 515 counts towards the 18 credits of course work in ocean engineering. OCE 605 and 606 are required of all full-time students.

**7. Signature of the President**

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David M. Dooley