Contact: Rachel Boon

REQUEST TO TERMINATE THE MASTER OF ENGINEERING IN ENERGY SYSTEMS ENGINEERING AT IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Committee Action Requested: Recommend to the Board approval of the request to terminate the Master of Engineering in Energy Systems Engineering in the College of Engineering at the Iowa State University.

The Council of Provosts and Board office staff reviewed the proposal and recommend approval.

Description of the program: The Master of Engineering in Energy Systems Engineering program was designed to prepare graduates with advanced technical expertise to address the challenges associated with modern energy systems and support the transition toward more sustainable and efficient energy infrastructure. The program provided multidisciplinary training focused on engineering analysis and systems-level integration across energy production, conversion, distribution, and end use, reflecting the growing need for coordinated technical solutions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions while maintaining economic competitiveness. Its thematic foundation recognized that meaningful energy system transformation requires engineers capable of working across disciplinary boundaries to implement innovative technologies and optimize complex systems.

Reason for proposed termination: With the evolution of energy-focused graduate education at ISU and the integration of energy systems content into other degree pathways, the Master of Engineering in Energy Systems Engineering program is being discontinued, with future efforts to support energy workforce development continuing through alternative programs and interdisciplinary initiatives. The demand for the current program has not exceeded the expected thresholds.

Effect on current students: The program is no longer accepting any new applicants.

Enrollment and Completion Trends:

	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Majors	2	2	6	5	7
Graduates	1	0	0	1	5

Impact on resources: The program's termination will result in a loss of revenue to the College of Engineering. The small, but significant, revenue from the program was higher than the costs.

Impact on workforce: The program has supported students from Iowa-based companies such as Emerson and utility companies like Alliant Energy. Terminating the program may limit the availability of specialists with the expertise related to future energy security efforts in the state.

Alternative programs: N/A

Date of Implementation: Upon approval of the Board.