



2021 Spring retreat

Ever Barbero

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Outline

- Accelerated Bachelor Master's (ABM) program
- Graduate admissions and graduation, updated requirements

Accelerated Bachelor Master's (ABM) Program

- Motivation
- Admissions
- Graduation and financial details
- Graduation requirements
- Program Allowances
- **Our Proposal**

Motivation

- Offer a research-oriented-track to top students
- Allow for a MS degree in 5 years.
- Create a viable tool for recruiting graduate students
 - During undergraduate recruitment (before the freshman year)
 - This is being used by top schools to lure top students
 - Afterwards up to the entire Junior year.
 - Increasing our “yield” of WVU students remaining here for graduate school
 - Increase the number of MS graduates that can be recruited for Ph.D.

Admissions

- Early admission (freshman year)
 - 3.0 HS GPA, SAT/ACT>70%
 - Maintain “regular admission” standards after completing 60 crhr
- Regular admission
 - WVU-enrolled students can apply
 - After 60 crhr and before 2 full semesters before graduation
 - GPA > 3.0
 - Transfer-students after 24 crhr of courses in their major
 - *Programs can impose additional restrictions to admission*

Graduation and financial details

- Both degrees conferred simultaneously
- Tuition and financial aid
 - Undergraduate-level when they are considered undergraduate
 - Graduate-level as long as they are considered graduate
 - Each program determines at which point a student is no longer a senior but a “graduate student”, like # hrs to be a senior, etc. Up to us.
 - “Graduate students” (as determined above) may receive GRA/GTA funding

Graduation requirements

- Complete all requirements of both degrees (BS and MS)
- No 600-level courses can be counted towards the BS degree
 - 500-level yes, nothing new here
- For each student enrolled, we (ME, AE) must report the courses *shared between BS and MS* (plan of study)
- Full time enrolment every Fall and Spring.
- Not available to dual major, double degree, or certificate students
- Max. 17 crhr MS-level and max. 20 crhr *combined* course-load on any semester.
- **Probation** for one-semester if student fails to maintain a *combined* 3.0 GPA
- **Terminated** students can count already-taken MS courses for their BS-minimum # of credits
 - Substitution of *MS courses for required BS courses* is allowed but up to us (ME, AE) to decide.

ABM Program Allowances

- Up to 12 hrs of “specific” courses can be shared between BS and MS
- Allows ABM students to take 500 level courses for their BS degree (nothing new)
- Using BS course credit for the MS degree **needs justification**
 - Not clear what “justification” means
 - Perhaps we can justify using (selected) technical electives to be shared, *but there is an easier way*
- Using MS course credit for BS does not need justification
 - Only 500-level allowed, *this is the easiest way to do it*
- Practically, we are limited to 6 hrs of double dipping (2 tech. electives)
 - Unless we can use graduate-level courses for a BS **required** courses!?
- We can cram another 6 cr-hrs of 500-level courses in the first 4 years to accelerate the student’s progress (ABM students are not dual majors!)

AE/ME proposal

- Allow two technical electives to be shared with MS degree (6 hrs)
 - Technical Electives cross-listed as 500-level would be automatically approved (no justification needed)
 - Most other electives could be approved but the justification requirements are not clear
 - Some electives may not be approved for graduate credit
 - For example, 471, 472, Microgravity, Independent Study, other TBD
- It is unlikely that we can justify BS required courses to be shared with the MS degree
- Initially, only “Thesis Option” would be allowed into the ABM program in our department
 - graduate recruiting strategy.

Things to do

- We must write down a whole degree program
 - With the same level of detail as the BSAE, BSME, MSAE, MSME degree programs we have.
 - Therefore, we must agree to some version of the AE/ME proposal in the previous slide, before we undertake such a task.
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- Next...



Updated (graduate) admission and graduation requirements

- GRE waiver
 - GPA \geq 3.5
 - Faculty willing to provide funding
 - Zoom interview (candidate, faculty sponsor, and Dr. Mucino)