

Resolution 2015-16.N

Resolution to Approve New Major, Computational and Systems Neuroscience, in Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience

Recommended by the Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies

First Reading: March 21, 2016

Second Reading:

Approved by University Council:

Approved by the President:

First Effective Date to declare Major: Spring 2016

First Effective Date to Graduate: Spring 2018

WHEREAS, Neuroscience encompasses rapidly emerging, scientifically critical areas within mathematics, statistics, and computer science, and more, and

WHEREAS, Neuroscience represents a unique academic field in that it requires students to understand and utilize diverse knowledge from multiple disciplines, and

WHEREAS, the School of Neuroscience supports the mission of continued emphasis on giving students a comprehensive foundation in the scientific method coupled with training from a translational perspective so that tomorrow's graduates can implement their knowledge in ways that contribute to the public good; and

WHEREAS, with the projected growth over the next few years, the new curriculum will allow students to pursue different interests within Neuroscience, and

WHEREAS, with this change, enrollment pressure on some of the upper-level Neuroscience courses will not only be alleviated but students will have smaller classes and more faculty-student interactions, and

WHEREAS, the Computational and Systems Neuroscience major allows students to explore tools and techniques that Neuroscientists use to make sense of the vast data available in hope of finding solutions to neurological diseases and disorders as well as to understand processes such as decision-making, addiction, motivation, and

WHEREAS, students in this major will also be able to explore exciting research areas in artificial intelligence and human-computer interactions and can pursue careers in science and engineering research, and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Major in Computational and Systems Neuroscience be approved for addition to the Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience effective Spring 2016 and the proposal forwarded through University governance and to the President for approval.