

**Resolution 2018-19.E**

**Resolution to Discontinue Bachelor of Science Degree in Engineering Science and Mechanics**

Recommended by the Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies

First Reading: March 25, 2019

Second Reading:

Faculty Senate:

Staff Senate:

Graduate Student Assembly:

Student Government Association:

Approved by University Council:

Approved by the President:

Effective Date: Summer II 2023

**WHEREAS**, the Bachelor of Science in Engineering Mechanics was established in 1958, then was renamed the Bachelor of Science in Engineering Science and Mechanics in 1972; and

**WHEREAS**, the degree has graduated 204 students over the past 5 years, with enrollments declining 23% from 2013 to 2018, while the College of Engineering enrollment rose 12% for the same time period; and

**WHEREAS**, the University is committed to growth in undergraduate student enrollments and the College of Engineering seeks to support this growth through increases in its undergraduate student enrollment across all degree programs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Biomedical Engineering and Mechanics (BEAM) will be offering a Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering available to those students interested in the biomechanics option area within the Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering Science and Mechanics; and

**WHEREAS**, there are significant technical and intellectual similarities between the Biomedical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Aerospace Engineering and Engineering Science and Mechanics disciplines; and

**WHEREAS**, engineering graduates are entering a workplace that continues to evolve, creating new opportunities that reflect our changing world; and

**WHEREAS**, there exists a large and increasing enrollment in other disciplines such as

mechanical and aerospace engineering in similar and related research areas; and

**WHEREAS**, a teach-out plan has been developed to ensure students currently enrolled in the Bachelor of Science may complete and be awarded the Bachelor of Science in Engineering Science and Mechanics; and

**WHEREAS**, Summer 2019 will be the last term for admitting students to the Bachelor of Science in Engineering Science and Mechanics; and

**WHEREAS**, current students in the Bachelor of Science in Engineering Science and Mechanics have been informed that the degree will be discontinued and they have until August 2023 to complete the degree requirements; and

**WHEREAS**, current students who plan to graduate in Fall 2023 or after will have the option of transitioning to mechanical, aerospace, biomedical, or any of the College of Engineering's 14 undergraduate degree programs;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Bachelor of Science in Engineering Science and Mechanics be discontinued, effective Summer II 2023;

**RECOMMENDATION:** That discontinuance of the Bachelor of Science in Engineering Science and Mechanics be approved effective Summer II 2023 and the proposal be forwarded to the President, the Board of Visitors, and the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia for approval, and to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges for approval.