DATE: 03/27/17

TO: Ragu Balakrishnan

Head, School of Electrical and Computer Engineering

FROM: <Tian Qiu>: ECE 400 Students

SUBJECT: Proposal to <make Computer Engineering Degree Plan more flexible>

**Purpose**

This purpose of this proposal is to show that making current Computer Engineering Degree Plan more flexible is needed.

**Background**

People from Computer Engineering are limited to the current degree plan. We have only one electrical elective. Compared to my Electrical Engineering friends, they have a more flexible degree plan which allows them to take lots of Computer Engineering courses. However, if we want to take more Electrical Engineering courses like ECE 382. It will not count as ECE credits.

**Recommendation**

Firstly, add an undergraduate level ECE 608 or CS 381, which is the introduction to algorithms course. I would say this course is one of the keys for Computer Engineering. But I cannot find it in ECE undergraduate course. It took me tons of mind to join CS 381 course because of the Computer Science Course Restriction. The final solution is to add one MACS major to get this course. Please add this course for future Computer Engineering students.

Secondly, give more freedom to ECE credits. One ECE elective is not enough. I cannot see the reason why I cannot learn Computer Security (ECE 404) and Object-Oriented Programming (ECE 30862) together as a Computer Engineering Student.

Thirdly, I do not agree what some student’s opinion to cancel ECE 301 or ECE 302. But I am wondering whether we can combine the ECE 201 ECE 202 ECE 255 ECE 301 to three or two courses. Although for those kinds of courses I all got best scores, I am not using them when serving as a Software Engineering Engineer. I think at least students may have the freedom to choose the concise version of those courses.

**Resources**

Professors or advisors who made the degree plan who take the responsibility. Probably several more computer Labs are needed because more students would take software related course. Also, we may hire one or two more professors to teach algorithms course.

**Summary**

Those solutions make Computer Engineering Degree Plan more flexible without risks for students who wants to go to hardware field because they still can choose them. The benefits are for students who want to be a software developer, they have their own freedom to take courses.

**Contact**

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