

## Academic Governance of Professionally Accredited Engineering programs at UOIT

**For Information:** that the flow of academic governance matters related to all accredited (including those working towards accreditation) engineering programs be altered such that they are approved by a single governing body prior to going forward to CPRC. At this time the body will be FEAS Faculty Council.

**RATIONALE:** On June 26, 2013 the deans of FEAS and FESNS put forward a memo to the Office of the Provost outlining a structure to govern engineering programs and curricula (Attached). This item was shared for information with Academic Council. However, in the proposed arrangement, both faculties were able to report BEng program changes to CPRC, which has caused some confusion. A clear governance structure for all accredited BEng programs is a requirement of the Canadian Engineering Accreditation Board (CEAB).

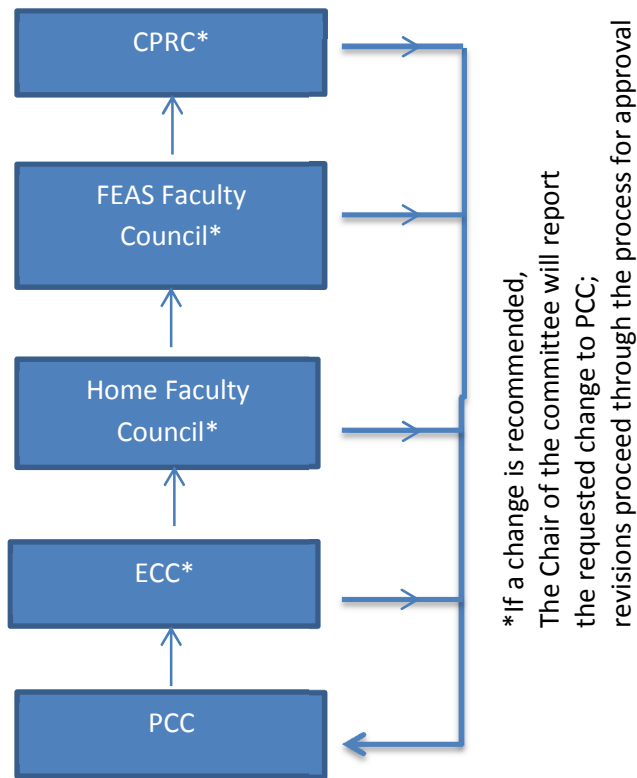
After lengthy consultation (internal and external), the Provost has assigned the responsibility for all academic and accreditation related matters for undergraduate engineering programs at UOIT to the Dean of FEAS for final approval. In making this decision, the discussion with the deans focussed on 4 guiding principles:

- 1) The process must fit with our current board delegated authority,
- 2) Decision making must enhance collaborative discussion among faculties
- 3) Structures do not duplicate committee work
- 4) Processes will ensure that the requirements of CEAB are met. These state:

**3.5.7 Authority and responsibility for the engineering program:** The Engineering Faculty Council (or equivalent engineering body) must have clear, documented authority and responsibility for the engineering program, regardless of the administrative structure within which the engineering program is delivered.

**3.5.8 Curriculum committee:** Engineering program curriculum changes are expected to be overseen by a formally structured curriculum committee. The majority of the members of the committee are expected to be licensed professional engineers in Canada, preferably in the jurisdiction in which the institution is located. In those jurisdictions where the teaching of engineering is the practice of engineering, they are expected to be licensed in that jurisdiction.

As per the June 2013 memo to Academic Council, the individual Program Curriculum Committee (there is a unique committee for each program) and the Engineering Curriculum Committee are responsible for reviewing all curricular matters related to all undergraduate engineering programs offered by the University to ensure that they meet the requirements of the CEAB. The change to the previous process is that the recommendation(s) of Engineering Curriculum Committee for all programs housed outside of FEAS will go to that faculty council for approval; once approved these recommendations will go to FEAS Faculty Council prior to submission to CPRC. The approval process is shown in the diagram below:



The committee structure has been set up in a manner to allow area specialists to have fulsome academic debate at the within the program curriculum committee (PCC). The Engineering Curriculum Committee (ECC) is structured to allows the chairs/program directors from all of the different BEng programs to review proposed programs and/or program changes before moving forward to the Home Faculty Council. Should ECC, the Home Faculty Council, or FEAS Faculty Council make any alterations to the proposed program, the chair of the committee initiating the alterations must take the proposal back to PCC to review, revise, and approve the proposed changes. The revised proposal will then go through the entire approval process prior to submission to CPRC.