

Proposal for a

Combined B.S./M.S. Five-Year Degree Program in Robotics

January 18, 2026

Proposed by the Faculty of the Robotics Program
University of California, Riverside
Riverside, CA 92521

1. Introduction

The Robotics Program Faculty in the Marlan and Rosemary Bourns College of Engineering proposes a Combined B.S./M.S. Degree Program in Robotics to be offered jointly by the Departments of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Computer Science and Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering. This initiative responds to the accelerating demand for robotics engineers and the rapidly evolving landscape of robotics, where the convergence of mechanics, perception, and artificial intelligence necessitates a deeper, more advanced, and integrated level of study. The proposed five-year plan of study provides a streamlined path for qualified undergraduates in Robotics Engineering to earn both a B.S. and an M.S. in Robotics, equipping them with the advanced expertise required in the field.

Motivation: As noted in the document *Establishment of Combined Programs at UCR*,¹ “Combined programs can better attract top high school graduates, transfer students, and returning students, especially those interested in advanced degrees. Thus, UCR departments can expect a higher proportion of good undergraduates. Combined program students will be more inclined to stay at UCR for their master's studies instead of applying to other institutions. Thus, UCR departments can better retain these students.” The University of California has placed an increased emphasis on attracting transfer students from community colleges, and the proposed joint B.S./M.S. program offers a unique and accessible pathway for these students to pursue graduate-level training. We anticipate that this initiative will enhance UCR’s ability to recruit and retain top students across both the BS and MS programs.

Method: The M.S. in Robotics is a 40-unit program, typically completed in four quarters. The combined B.S./M.S. program allows UCR students to earn both a B.S. in Robotics Engineering and an M.S. in Robotics in five years. To achieve this, the joint program allows for the following benefits compared to matriculating in the M.S. program alone:

¹ https://senate.ucr.edu/about/policies/establishment_of_combined_programs_at_ucr.html

alternate link: https://ucr-senate-public.s3.amazonaws.com/committees/10/committee_resource/establishment-of-combined-programs-at-ucr-60df796d88e04-.pdf

- Allowing students to take graduate-level courses that will count toward their technical elective requirements.
- Allowing up to twelve (12) units (three 4-unit courses) of graduate coursework taken as an undergraduate to apply toward the M.S. degree, fulfilling focus area requirements and/or elective requirements in case the student selects the comprehensive exam option. The coursework must be pre-approved and can be counted toward satisfying the B.S. in Robotics Engineering technical elective requirements.
- Double counting of up to 30% of graduate units will be allowed as per CCGA. The Robotics M.S. program has 40 units, thus allowing for 12 units of double-counting of graduate units in the joint B.S./M.S. program.

Relation to Existing Programs: The combined B.S./M.S. program involves no new courses or requirements. The existing Robotics MS program has been updated to meet its own requirements, and all those changes are compatible with the proposed joint B.S./M.S degree. The list of graduate courses is also expected to expand in the future, to reflect recent faculty hiring and growth across the participating departments.

Contributions to Diversity: Since the new program will allow well-prepared students to obtain a master's degree within one year after they obtain a B.S. degree, it can help reduce their financial burden and therefore attract more students who are usually coming from low-income families. For example, we plan to recruit more students from community colleges who transfer to UCR and then complete the combined B.S./M.S. program, and encourage all deserving students to apply to our combined B.S./M.S. program. Student clubs from the pathway major, such as the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE), Association for Computing Machinery (ACM), the Society for Women Engineers (SWE), Women in Computer Science, Highlander Statistics Society, the Data Science Society, Statistics GSA, and Mu Sigma Rho, will also help us recruit and retain all deserving students by investing in each student's success, sense of belonging, and cultural competency. The above diversity goals for students can be measured by the broader demographics of eligibility pools, applicants, and enrollments, improved graduation rates and time to graduation for student groups, and 2nd-year retention rates.

Interrelation with Other UC Institutions: The proposed program is distinguished nationally by its deeply integrative curriculum. This distinction stems from its collaborative design, development, and execution by a cohesive team of research-active faculty whose complementary expertise spans the key converging sub-disciplines of contemporary robotics. Strategically, this program will enhance the appeal of the B.S. and M.S. degrees in Robotics while avoiding competition or overlap with existing UCR programs. This unique positioning provides the UCR campus with a significant competitive advantage over peer institutions, both within the University of California system and nationwide. Moreover, the program is expected to function as a vital pipeline, attracting high-caliber students who will be strong candidates for transitioning into Ph.D. programs in computing and engineering at UCR and across other UC campuses.

Department that Will Administer the Program: The program will continue to be administered jointly by the Departments of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Computer Science and Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering, as the individual B.S. in Robotics Engineering and M.S. in Robotics programs.

Timetable for Development: The new program will start for the Fall 2026 entry term. Existing students in the B.S. in Robotics Engineering major will be allowed to apply for the combined B.S./M.S., provided that they have taken at least four (4) units that can be used for the completion of their M.S. degree by their senior year.

Job Demand in the Field: There has been a strong and consistent demand for robotics engineers across industry, government, institutional services, and research sectors. Job prospects in the robotics sector are robust, driven by rapid advancements in automation and artificial intelligence across numerous industries. According to Zion Market Research, the global robotics market is projected to expand from approximately \$38 billion in 2023 to over \$100 billion by 2032. This significant growth fuels a strong demand for skilled professionals who can design, build, and maintain robotic systems. The World Economic Forum's "Future of Jobs Report 2025" highlights that while automation will displace some roles, it is simultaneously expected to create 97 million new jobs, many of which will be in robotics and artificial intelligence. High-demand positions include robotics engineers, automation specialists, and software developers, particularly in burgeoning sectors like logistics, healthcare, manufacturing, and agriculture, signaling a dynamic and expanding career field. As a result, the job prospects for M.S. graduates in Robotics are exceptionally favorable.

Plan for Evaluation of the Program. The effectiveness of the program will be evaluated by monitoring the extent to which it increases the number of well-qualified students in the respective B.S. and M.S. programs. The metrics of evaluation will include GPA, graduation rates, job placement, and acceptance to advanced degree programs.

2. Program

Admission Criteria: The proposed 5-year combined B.S./M.S. in Robotics program will have two time frames for admission, one of which is for conditional admission: 1) preliminary conditional admission as an incoming lower division student, and 2) admission as a senior meeting admission criteria. Freshmen students will be eligible for both admission options. Transfer students will first need to meet the existing transfer criteria to the B.S. program and as such will be eligible for the latter admission option only. Specifically, we propose to offer outstanding freshmen in the B.S. in Robotics Engineering major the opportunity to apply for preliminary (conditional) admission into the combined B.S./M.S. in Robotics program based on their undergraduate admission qualifications. This can serve as a recruiting tool as well as increase participation in the Robotics major. Official admittance (application via the graduate division) would still require meeting the course and GPA criteria and satisfactory progress in the undergraduate major.

Preliminary Conditional Admission Criteria (HS)

- High School GPA >3.6
- Satisfy Entry-Level Writing requirement prior to matriculation
- Sufficient math preparation to enroll in calculus upon arrival
- Seeks Preliminary Conditional Admission Criteria (BS) as a senior undergraduate

Preliminary Conditional Admission Criteria (BS – apply at the beginning of the senior year)

- Pursuing a major in Robotics Engineering
- Overall GPA of 3.4 or higher
- A preliminary “core” course GPA of 3.3 in at least three of the following five “core” requirements with no grade less than a B-: (1) CS 100, (2) EE 106, (3) EE 144 / ME 144, (4) MATH 031, (5) EE 114
- One letter of recommendation from a UCR faculty member affiliated with the robotics program

Matriculation into the combined program occurs in the Fall term following senior year, provided:

- Enrolled in the UCR Robotics Engineering Major
- Overall GPA 3.4 or higher
- A final “core” course GPA of 3.3 in at least four of the following five “core” requirements with no grade less than a B-: (1) CS 100, (2) EE 106, (3) EE 144 / ME 144, (4) MATH 031, (5) EE 114

To complete the BS+MS in five years, it is strongly recommended that students complete at least two graduate courses by the end of the senior year from an M.S. focus area list and/or the M.S. elective list in case the student plans to pursue the M.S. comprehensive exam option. These courses will be counted towards the B.S. technical electives and the M.S. degree requirements.

Combined B.S./M.S. Degree Requirements. The M.S. in Robotics program’s course requirements remain as outlined in the general catalog. The only concurrent changes involve updates to the list of approved focus area electives and increased flexibility in the required core courses to better accommodate students in the MS program and the proposed B.S./M.S. program.

The Robotics Engineering major remains as currently outlined in the general catalog, with the addition of a mention of this pathway and a pointer to this new proposal's language, as well as revisions to the major requirements to replace some of the required courses in lieu of new course additions and to update the list of technical electives.

During the MS portion of the program, students must maintain a GPA of at least 3.0 for all coursework. If the GPA falls below 3.0, they may be dropped from the program.

Sample Combined B.S./M.S. Degree Program in Robotics. The example below shows a sample course plan. It considers the following working conditions:

- The B.S. portion includes the new proposed changes in the B.S. program
- The M.S. portion includes the new proposed changes in the M.S. program
- The student follows the project option for the M.S. degree
- EE 268 and CS 227 / EE258 are used to count both as ENRB technical electives for the B.S. degree and as focus area electives, assuming the student selects “Motion Planning and Autonomous Navigation” as their focus areas for the M.S. degree
- The student chooses CS 258/EE 227 as the third focus area elective course

Sample Combined B.S./M.S. in Robotics Course Plan

	FALL	WINTER	SPRING
1ST YEAR	WRIT 010 (4) MATH 009A (4) CS 010A (4) ME 009 (4) 16 UNITS	WRIT 020 (4) MATH 009B (4) CS 010B (4) PHYS 040A (5) 17 UNITS	CS 010C (4) MATH 009C (4) PHYS 040B (5) WRIT 030 (4) 17 UNITS
2ND YEAR	CS 100 (5) MATH 010A (4) PHYS 040A (5) Hum/ Soc Sci Breadth (4) 18 UNITS	EE 106 (4) MATH 045 (4) MATH 031 (5) Bio Sci Breadth (4) 17 UNITS	CS 061 (4) MATH 011 (4) EE 005 (4) ME 143 (4) 16 UNITS
3RD YEAR	EE 114 (4) ME 120 (4) EE 197 (4) Hum/ Soc Sci Breadth (4) 16 UNITS	CS/EE 120A (5) EE 111 (4) EE/ME 144 (4) ENRB Technical Elective (4) 17 UNITS	CS/EE 120B (4) EE 132 (4) ENRB Technical Elective (4) Hum/ Soc Sci Breadth (4) 16 UNITS
4TH YEAR	EE/CS 148 (4) EE175A (4) Hum/ Soc Sci Breadth (4) ENRB Technical Elective (4) 16 UNITS	EE175B (4) EE 268 - ENRB Technical Elective (4) Hum/ Soc Sci Breadth (4) 12 UNITS	EE 142 / CS 171 (4) CS 258 / EE 227 - ENRB Technical Elective (4) Hum/ Soc Sci Breadth (4) 12 UNITS
5TH YEAR (MS)	CS 224 / EE 242A (4) EE 230 (4) CS 258 / EE 227 (4) 12 UNITS	CS/EE 265A (4) ME 225 (4) EE 297 (4) 12 UNITS	EE/CS 265B (4) EE 297 (4) *** (see note) 8+ UNITS

*** Students may elect to enroll in an additional course of their choice to maintain any necessary full-time enrollment status.

Normative time from matriculation to degree. Five years.

3. Catalog Entry

Combined Five-Year B.S./M.S. Program

The BCOE College offers a combined five-year B.S./M.S. program in Robotics Engineering that caters to the current UCR B.S. in Robotics Engineering students as well as incoming students who directly enter, transfer to, or change majors to the Robotics Engineering program. It enables students to complete the Robotics M.S. degree program in one year by allowing up to [12 units](#) of graduate courses taken as an undergraduate to apply towards the M.S. degree, fulfilling focus area requirements and/or elective requirements in case the student selects the comprehensive exam option. The courses must be pre-approved and can be counted toward satisfying the B.S. in Robotics Engineering requirements.

A B.S. student may apply at the beginning of their senior year by submitting an application to the M.S. in Robotics program, provided that, at the end of their junior year, the student was a UCR B.S. student in the Robotics Engineering major. Applicants to the [joint B.S./M.S. program](#) are expected to have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.4 and completed at least three of the following five “core” course requirements with no grade less than a B- and average grade of at least 3.3: (1) CS 100, (2) EE 106, (3) EE 144 / ME 144, (4) MATH 031, (5) EE 114. Matriculation into the combined program occurs in the Fall term following senior year, provided: (a) the M.S. application is accepted, (b) throughout the senior year, the student is in the Robotics Engineering major with cumulative GPA 3.4 or higher, (c) no grade less than a B- and an average grade of at least 3.3 in at least four of the five “core” courses listed above prior to matriculation into the program, (d) by the end of the senior year, the student completes their corresponding B.S. degree requirements. To complete the [joint B.S./M.S.](#) in five years, it is strongly recommended that students complete at least two graduate-level courses by the end of their senior year. These courses should come from an M.S. focus area list and/or the M.S. electives list in case the student plans to pursue the comprehensive exam option. The courses will be counted toward both the B.S. technical electives and the M.S. degree requirements.

Incoming students who are applying to the Robotics Engineering B.S. program may simultaneously apply for preliminary conditional admission into the combined B.S./M.S. program, provided their high school GPA is at least 3.6, they satisfy the Entry Level Writing requirement before matriculation, they have sufficient math preparation to enroll in calculus upon arrival, and they aim to meet the preliminary conditional admission criteria. Preliminary conditional admission status will remain in effect as long as the criteria are met. Preliminarily admitted students still need to follow the formal application steps listed earlier in their senior year to confirm and complete admission to the joint B.S./M.S. program. [Transfer students will need to first meet the existing transfer admission requirements and then apply to the joint B.S./M.S. program at the beginning of the senior year, as outlined above.](#)

3. Projected Need, resource requirements, student support

This combined program is primarily a recruitment tool, intended to leverage the increasing interest in graduate robotics and AI education and attract top UC Riverside B.S. in Robotics Engineering students into the Robotics M.S. program.

For the Robotics Engineering majors, the prospect of completing both the B.S. in Robotics Engineering and the M.S. in Robotics in a total of five years should attract students who are highly motivated and more likely to make it through the program. Further, we expect that the opportunity of earning a combined B.S./M.S. in three years will be highly attractive to *community college transfer students* as well. Enrollment of community college students has recently become an urgent priority for the University of California. Combined with ongoing increases in admissions standards, this should increase both retention and the overall quality of the students.

For the M.S. program, we anticipate that combined-program enrollment will initially increase by only a few students per year (a dozen or so). There would be no expectation of support for the participants in the combined B.S./M.S. program. In addition, if at some point in the future, funding opportunities emerge from campus, college, department, or Graduate Division sources for M.S. students, then fifth-year B.S./M.S. students would be eligible. One example could be available Reader or Teaching Assistantship positions, especially for courses that include labs. Each student accepted into the combined program is likely to be near the top of the applicant pool. If a student decides to continue on for a Ph.D., then full support packages would be provided.

In short, the main effect of the program should be to increase the quality and diversity of students in the Robotics Engineering B.S. and Robotics M.S. programs, and achieve a modest increase in enrollment levels. Similarly, it should increase the employability of students produced by both programs and help meet the increasing demand for AI and Robotics students with graduate degrees.

Resources

Each student in the combined program is essentially just a regular student (in the B.S. program, or, in the fifth year, in the M.S. program), and requires the same resources as a regular student at the same level. Also, because of the highly selective nature of the admissions requirements, B.S. and M.S. enrollments will be modestly affected, at least initially. Therefore, the program requires no change in faculty, courses, or resources such as library, computing, equipment, lab space, etc. Likewise, the program requires no change in levels or mechanisms for student funding.

The program does require minor administrative support. [During the solely B.S. part of this program \(normative timeline: years 1–3\), students will be advised by the BCOE Undergraduate](#)

Academic Advising Center as usual for pursuance of a B.S. in the Robotics Engineering major as well as the Robotics Program Undergraduate Faculty Advisor. The administration of the program at the undergraduate level requires processing applications for preliminary acceptance, tracking preliminarily enrolled students, and identifying and informing students who will be eligible to apply at the end of their junior year. During the year that involves taking both undergraduate and graduate level courses (normative timeline: year 4), the students will continue utilizing undergraduate-focused resources as above, and will also receive mentorship from the Robotics Program Graduate Faculty Advisor. Lastly, during the M.S. part of the program (normative timeline: year 5), the students will have access to resources available to graduate students, including support from the CSE Graduate Students Services Advisor and guidance from the Robotics Program Graduate Faculty Advisor. The administrative functions for admission to the Robotics Graduate program are already performed by the program's Graduate Admission Committee; this committee will also be responsible for administering this B.S./M.S. program with continued support from BCOE Graduate Student Advising, which will have to track which M.S. students are in the combined program and account for the double-counting allowance.

The Dean is committed to providing the resources for the program. The program has a dedicated faculty advisor (i.e., Robotics Program Graduate Faculty Advisor) and a dedicated staff advisor already for MS students (note that Robotics does not have a PhD degree). The staff advisor is a full-time staff in the CSE department, and is backed up by staff in ECE, if needed. The faculty advisor is a program faculty member from one of the three departments supporting the program - CSE, ECE, ME. As international MS students numbers have dropped significantly, the faculty and staff advisors should be able to handle the BS + MS students, in addition to the MS only students. At least in the near future, we do not expect the total number of students overseen by the advisors to be more than what has been the case in the past. As enrollment increases, the Dean is committed to increasing support as needed.

4. Changes in Senate Regulations

No changes in Senate regulations are required.

5. Implementation timeframe

We expect the new program to be open for application in January 2027 and start accepting students for the Fall 2027 entry term.

This proposal was approved by the M.S. in Robotics faculty on September 21 2026 with a vote of 23 in favor, 0 opposed, 2 unavailable.

Submitted by:

Amit Roy-Chowdhury

Chair of the Robotics Program

RESPONSE TO BS + MS ROBOTICS PROGRAM

We thank the various Senate committees for their consideration of the program. We appreciate that the Senate is generally supportive of the program. We have addressed the remaining questions and concerns in the proposal (these are in blue for easy reference), and summarize the changes below. Also, please note that ME120 in the previous submission has been replaced with EE114 as one of the 5 “core” courses to decide admission to the MS portion of the program, and has been approved unanimously by the faculty.

Committee on Education Policy

The Robotics BS program has a clear admission requirement for transfer students which is included in the catalog. See the section “*Transfer Admission Criteria*” under the Robotics program in the Catalog. The transfer criteria for BS + MS students will be the same. This is now mentioned in Section 2 of the proposal.

Graduate Council

The requested language about double-counting has been added.

Regarding the resources for the BS + MS students, the program consulted with the Dean. The program has a dedicated faculty advisor and a dedicated staff advisor already for MS students (note that Robotics does not have a PhD degree). The staff advisor is a full-time staff in the CSE department, and is backed up by staff in ECE, if needed. The faculty advisor is a program faculty member from one of the three departments supporting the program - CSE, ECE, ME. As international MS students numbers have dropped significantly, the faculty and staff advisors should be able to handle the BS + MS students, in addition to the MS only students. At least in the near future, we do not expect the total number of students overseen by the advisors to be more than what has been the case in the past. As enrollment increases, the Dean is committed to increasing support as needed and providing additional resources for the program. We have added related text in Section 3 of the proposal.

Executive Committee, School of Public Policy

The typo in the table on Page 5 has been fixed. Thanks for catching it.

Regarding the number of units in the last quarter, we do not think this is a problem. Many other programs have total units requirements that are not multiples of 12, and this has not posed an issue. In fact, it can be an advantage to students who may need an extra course to create the required background; they will still be able to graduate on time. Students who have only 8 required units left in the last quarter may take an extra course to meet a 12-unit requirement, if needed. We have added a clarification in the proposal about this.



Academic Senate

*Professor Kenneth Barish
Division Chair*

May 14, 2026

Amit Roy Chowdhury, Lead Program Proponent
Department of Computer Science and Engineering

Vagelis Hristidis, Chair
BCOE Faculty Executive Committee

Abby Martinez, Graduate and Operations Assistant
Department of Computer Science and Engineering

Re: Proposed Combined B.S./M.S. Five-Year Degree Program in Robotics

Dear Colleagues,

The Academic Senate Executive Council included the subject program proposal on our May 11, 2026 agenda. Council had no comments to add to those submitted by committees. This feedback is enclosed for your consideration should you submit a revised proposal.

Should you decide to submit a revision please send it to my attention (copying Senate Director Cortez at cherysac@ucr.edu). Please include [\[New Business\]](#) in the subject line. You may find it helpful to know that some proponents find it useful to include a letter responding to the feedback as a cover to the revised proposal submission.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Kenneth Barish'.

Kenneth Barish
Chair, Academic Senate

cc: Student Affairs Manager and FEC Liaison Smith
Senate Director Cortez
Senate Analyst Beatty
Senate Analyst Miller

Enclosures



Academic Senate

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY

April 13, 2026

To: Ken Barish, Chair
Riverside Division

From: Annie Ditta, Chair
Committee on Educational Policy

Re: Proposal for B.S. + M.S. in Robotics Combined Degree Program

The Committee on Educational Policy (CEP) reviewed and voted to support the proposal for the B.S. + M.S. in Robotics Combined Degree Program at their April 3, 2026 meeting. However, given that the justification specifically calls out transfer students, the Committee recommends that the program includes a section that clearly outlines the eligibility requirements for transfer students to be admitted to the combined degree program.



April 23, 2026

TO: Kenneth N. Barish, Chair, Academic Senate, UCR Division

FROM: Harry Tom, Chair, Faculty Executive Committee, College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences

SUBJECT: [Campus Review] Proposal: Combined B.S./M.S. Five-Year Degree Program in Robotics

Prof. Barish,

The CNAS Faculty Executive Committee has reviewed the proposal for the combined B.S./M.S. Five-Year Degree Program in Robotics and has no comments to provide.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Harry Tom'.

Harry Tom, Ph.D
Chair, Faculty Executive Committee, College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences



April 23, 2026

TO: Ken Barish, PhD, Chair, Academic Senate, UCR Division

FROM: Adam Godzik, Ph.D., Chair, Faculty Executive Committee, UCR School of Medicine

SUBJECT: **[Campus Review] Proposal: *Combined B.S./M.S. Five-Year Degree Program in Robotics***

Dear Ken,

The SOM Faculty Executive Committee has reviewed the *Proposal: Combined B.S./M.S. Five-Year Degree Program in Robotics*

The committee is in support of the proposed B.S./M.S. Five-Year Degree Program in Robotics.

Yours sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

4/24/2026 | 11:10 AM PDT
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Adam Godzik, Ph.D.
Chair, Faculty Executive Committee School of Medicine



Academic Senate

GRADUATE COUNCIL

April 23, 2026

To: Kenneth Barish, Chair
Riverside Division

From: Viji Santhakumar, Chair
Graduate Council

RE: [Campus Review] (Proposal) Combined B.S./M.S. Five-Year Degree Program in Robotics

Graduate Council reviewed the proposal for a Combined BS+MS Five-Year Degree Program in Robotics at their April 16, 2026 meeting. On page 2 of the proposal, the second bullet point should include the updated language approved by CCGA regarding the percentage of double counting that is allowable so that it matches what is in the proposed catalog entry. The Council was also concerned with the advising structure for the MS students, especially given that this is an interdepartmental program. Advising students in interdepartmental programs has been raised often as a concern in previous program reviews. The Council suggests having a designated advisor for the MS portion of the program. The Council would also like to see any program specific additional resources defined in the proposal.



Academic Senate

Committee on Information Technology

April 24, 2026

To: Kenneth Barish, Chair
Riverside Division

From: John Franchak, Chair
Committee on Information Technology

Re: Review Item: Combined BS/MS 5-year degree program in robotics.

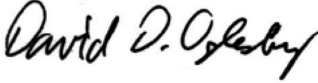
The committee reviewed the program and had no comments.

PLANNING AND BUDGET

April 23, 2026

To: Kenneth Barish, Chair
Riverside Division

From: David Oglesby, Chair
Committee on Planning and Budget

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David P. Oglesby".

Re: [Campus Review] Proposal: *Combined B.S./M.S. Five-Year Degree Program in Robotics*

At our meeting on March 31, the Committee on Planning and Budget (CPB) reviewed the proposal for the *Combined B.S./M.S. Five-Year Degree Program in Robotics*. CPB found no budget-related red flags and generally supports the proposed program.

04/22/2026

To: Kenneth Barish, Chair of the Assembly of the Academic Senate
and Cherysa Cortez, Executive Director of the UCR Academic Senate

From: Kinnari Atit, Ph.D., Faculty Chair of the School of Education Executive Committee

Subject: SOE FEC's Feedback on the Proposal for Combined B.S./M.S. 5-Year Program in Robotics

The SOE Executive Committee reviewed the Proposal for Combined B.S./M.S. 5-Year Program in Robotics. Comments/feedback were solicited at our executive committee meeting and via email.

We have no comments on this document.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kinnari Atit", followed by a stylized flourish or checkmark.

Kinnari Atit
Chair, Faculty Executive Committee
Associate Professor
School of Education
University of California, Riverside
Email: kinnari.atit@ucr.edu



April 23, 2026

TO: Ken Barish, PhD, Chair, Academic Senate, UCR Division

FROM: Adam Godzik, Ph.D., Chair, Faculty Executive Committee, UCR School of Medicine

SUBJECT: **[Campus Review] Proposal: *Combined B.S./M.S. Five-Year Degree Program in Robotics***

Dear Ken,

The SOM Faculty Executive Committee has reviewed the *Proposal: Combined B.S./M.S. Five-Year Degree Program in Robotics*

The committee is in support of the proposed B.S./M.S. Five-Year Degree Program in Robotics.

Yours sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

4/24/2026 | 11:10 AM PDT
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Adam Godzik, Ph.D.
Chair, Faculty Executive Committee School of Medicine

TO: Ken Barish, Chair
Riverside Division

FR: Kurt Schwabe, Chair 
Executive Committee, School of Public Policy

RE: **[Campus Review] Proposal: Combined B.S./M.S. Five-Year Degree Program
in Robotics**

Date: April 20, 2026

The Executive Committee of the School of Public Policy has reviewed the Proposal for a **Combined B.S./M.S. Five-Year Degree Program in Robotics**. We are supportive of this program. We have a few minor comments.

- On Page 5, in the Spring quarter of the fifth (and final) year, students are suggested only to enroll in 8 credits. UCR typically requires students to be enrolled in 12 credits to be considered a full-time student. How will the program potentially deal with this issue both as it relates to enrollment status and student financial aid?
- Also on Page 5, in the Spring of the second year, the total number of credits is shown as 12, but the sum of the number of credits listed equals 16 credits. This may simply be a typo.

April 23, 2026

TO: Ken Barish, Chair
Riverside Division of the Academic Senate

FROM: Evangelos (Vagelis) Christidis, Chair 
BCOE Executive Committee

RE: BS+MS in Robotics

The BCOE Executive Committee met on April 23rd, 2026. Regarding the BS+MS in Robotics, the committee supports it unanimously.

