

Date: Wed, 05 Jan 2005 09:52:09 -0800
To: cee-faculty@ucdavis.edu, ceegrads@ucdavis.edu
From: Jeannie Darby <jdarby@ucdavis.edu>
Subject: important 290 change

To all CEE graduate students and faculty. The faculty consider it important that graduate students leaving this department be proficient in giving technical presentations. ECI 290 was developed to help students gain/practice effective presentation skills. However, we recognize that some students can gain/practice these skills in ways other than taking ECI 290. The CEE faculty have thus voted on two **important** changes in the ECI 290 seminar requirement, effective immediately. These changes are meant to more effectively focus ECI 290 on students with less experience with technical presentations. The changes are as follows:

1. The former policy required all students to take ECI 290 for both the M.S. and the Ph.D. degree programs (i.e., if a student received an MS and a Ph.D. from our department, the student was required to take ECI 290 twice). **The new policy is that a student is required to take ECI 290 for only the first graduate degree they earn in our department. If the student then earns a second graduate degree, there is no longer a requirement to take ECI 290 a second time.**
2. The former policy did not explicitly define under what conditions the requirement for taking ECI 290 could be waived entirely. **The new policy is that if the CEE faculty adviser of the student attests in writing to the fact that the student has had the equivalent (or better) critiqued speaking experience provided by ECI 290 and would not benefit significantly from taking ECI 290, the ECI 290 requirement will be waived entirely for that student.** The faculty member must fill out the attached form. The form is to be submitted to the graduate staff adviser (Renee Timas) who will give it to the Graduate Advisor (Rob Chai for review). When a Ph.D. student turns in his/her program of study for approval by GPC or a M.S. student turns in his/her degree check, the signed waiver form must be attached if ECI 290 was not taken. The form must be filed with the Graduate Adviser **prior** to the start of the last quarter of residency for the student. Do **not** count on having your adviser and the Graduate Adviser waive the requirement. The faculty will not waive the requirement unless you have demonstrated competency in technical presentations.

If you have questions about this change in policy please contact Jeannie Darby or Rob Chai, Graduate Adviser.

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ECI 290 Waiver Request Form

This form is required only for students desiring to waive the ECI 290 requirement entirely. Your faculty adviser must be able and willing to verify that you have had the equivalent (or better) critiqued public speaking experience and that you are reasonably competent in presentation skills.

Return the form to Graduate Assistant (R. Timas) PRIOR to the last quarter of residency.

Student Name _____

Date _____

Degree Objective (MS/PhD) _____

Expected Degree Date _____

Supporting statement by faculty advisor to waive ECI 290 requirement entirely
(Faculty advisor to evaluate student's equivalent critiqued public speaking experience)

Types of equivalent experience might include, but are not limited to:

_____ Serving as Instructor for a course

_____ Presenting research at a professional meeting (coached/critiqued)

_____ Taking a speaking/rhetoric class

Provide description of the equivalent experience:

_____ I verify that this student is reasonably competent in the area of technical presentations.

Faculty Advisor Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Approved by Graduate Advisor _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Note: Request **must** be filed with the Graduate Adviser prior to the start of the last quarter of residency