



February 7, 2020

Dear members of the University Senate,

I am pleased to accept the following motions passed by the University Senate on December 11, 2019, and on January 8, 2020:

- US19/20-05: New Program Proposal: Bachelor's in Neuroscience
- US19/20-06: New Program Proposal: Data Science
- US19/20-07: Approval of Curriculum Report, Fall 2019
- US19/20-08: New Program Proposal: Bioengineering
- US19/20-09: Accelerated Master's Programs

As I stated in the recent Five Years of Institutional Governance report, additional degree offerings in data science, bioengineering, neuroscience, and other fields are essential to our progression as a world class public research university. They demonstrate our excellence in research, teaching and service, as well as provide new and exciting opportunities for current and prospective students. The motions listed above each represent critical steps forward for our academic programs. I thank the Senate, its committees, and the Undergraduate Council for its diligence and openness through this multi-year program approval process.

I also appreciate the Senate's approval of the Accelerated Master's Program which will directly support the success of our students. Creating avenues for students to gain more experience while they are at the university will benefit their career trajectories and allow the university to recruit more students interested in these kinds of programs. There are currently discussions to ensure the program is aligned with existing university policies. If clarifying language is needed, it will be submitted to the Senate for consideration.

Thank you again for your hard work and contributions to our university.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Schill".

Michael H. Schill
President and Professor of Law