MEMORANDUM:

TO: Institute Graduate Committee, Charles Liotta, and Maureen Kilroy
FROM: Anselm C. Griffin, Professor and Chair, TFE
DATE: September 30, 2002
SUBJECT: Request Approval for Five-Year BS-MS Program in Textile & Fiber Engineering

The faculty of the School of Textile & Fiber Engineering has approved the following and ask the Institute Graduate Committee for its approval:

1. Admission of Georgia Tech undergraduate students into the graduate program upon completion of 30 semester credit hours at Georgia Tech and a GPA of 3.5. The applicant must submit an application (draft attached), an essay (draft attached), and two letters of recommendation from Georgia Tech faculty members. Students must maintain a 3.0 GPA to continue in the program.

2. Students who participate in the Five-Year BS-MS Program and maintain eligibility in this program (maintain a 3.0 GPA or higher average) automatically qualify for the 6 semester-hour “Graduate Course” option.

Recommended:

Dr. Don Giddens, Dean, College of Engineering
Date

Dr. Jean-Lou Chameau, Provost
Date

xc: GT Undergraduate Committee
This is a proposal for a five-year BS–MS Program in the School of Textile & Fiber Engineering. This program is modeled after the programs already adopted in the Woodruff School of Mechanical Engineering, the School of Material Science, the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, and the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

As Georgia Tech has improved its national rankings, we have been able to attract better students to our undergraduate programs. However, an increasing number of these students understand that they will require education beyond the BS degree. A five-year BS-MS Program will help us to recruit top high school students into our undergraduate programs and will also help our graduate programs attract the “best and the brightest” of our existing undergraduate students. This program will foster a richer environment for our undergraduates thereby improving our retention and the overall undergraduate experience. We also hope that this program will encourage a number of top students to continue for the Ph.D. degree.

Target Audience

This program seeks to engage undergraduate students who indicate and demonstrate an interest in and ability for additional education beyond the BS degree. The key components of such a program are twofold: (1). Intense interaction among students and faculty to include mentoring, design experience, and undergraduate research experience PTFE 490x, Special Problems in Polymer & Fiber Engineering); (2). Careful advising and course-planning to enable students to begin serious graduate coursework in their fourth year of study. Students with significant AP credit will be especially well positioned to take full advantage of this opportunity.

How the Program Would Work

Students in the BS-MS Program will remain undergraduates until they meet requirements for the undergraduate degree, at which point they will receive their BS degree and then will be changed to graduate status.

Students will be eligible to apply for the program after completion of 30 semester credit hours at Georgia Tech (i.e. end of Freshman Year) and appropriate progress in their degree program. As a practical matter, students will need to apply before the completion of 75 semester-credit hours to include transfer credit and AP credit (mid-point of Junior Year). Students must have a Georgia Tech GPA of 3.5 or higher for admission into the Five Year BS-MS Program in the School of Textile & Fiber Engineering.

Graduate Admissions and Enrollment Services (GAES) will process a streamlined application (application fee waived, no GREs, two recommendation letters from Georgia Tech faculty members, and a short essay) and forward to the Graduate Coordinator or Graduate Admission Officer in conjunction with the individual who mentors these students). Admission into the program is based upon academic performance at Georgia Tech and the student’s potential for advanced study and/or research as assessed from the student’s application essay. Upon admission, GAES will target the student for a projected starting graduate study term. The admit record will be flagged, however, so that it will not convert to a graduate student record until the student has graduated with their BS degree. Close coordination will be necessary between GAES, the Graduate Admission Officer in the home unit and the Program Coordinator in the home unit to effect this transition at the proper time.

Continuation in the program will require the student maintain a GPA of 3.0 or higher. This GPA requirement should not deter students from taking challenging courses. The program will not penalize students who opt out after the bachelor’s, while still giving them an enriched
undergraduate education. Students participating in this program will be eligible for the 6 semester-credit-hour “Graduate Course Option” as described in the Institute Catalog. Students in this program will be eligible to be supported as graduate research assistants or graduate teaching assistants in their fifth year of study with students who have excelled at undergraduate research being given preference for receiving the appropriate tuition reduction and assistantship stipends.

BS-MS Program Coordination

A faculty member will be assigned as the Program Coordinator. The Program Coordinator will also be responsible for targeting and identifying prospective students for the program and developing recruitment strategies to attract the "best and the brightest" into the program. The Program Coordinator will also monitor students after they are accepted into the program to help ensure their success at Tech. Furthermore, the Program Coordinator will be responsible for placing the students into undergraduate research experiences and will monitor their curricular progress to insure that graduate level coursework can be taken during their fourth year of study. The Program Coordinator is one of the most important factors to the success of the program.

Recruitment

The Five-Year BS-MS Program should enable the School of Textile & Fiber Engineering to attract outstanding students into our undergraduate and graduate programs. The Program Coordinator would write to the accepted COE students in their unit as well as undecided freshman students in the spring prior to the May 1 deposit deadline to encourage these students to choose Tech and consider this program. This program could be used as a yield activity to get new accepted freshman students to accept our offer of admission.

Recruitment of currently enrolled Georgia Tech students would focus on students with 30 to 75 semester hours of credit. For example, in the School of Textile & Fiber Engineering, faculty teaching undergraduate courses will actively recruit interested students into the program. We would also (1) contact UEC students; and (2) work with our student organizations to promote this program.
Please read all instructions carefully. Type or print neatly in dark ink, (bearing down firmly to guarantee a readable copy). You must sign and date this application, verifying that all information is true and correct.

1. Georgia Tech Student ID Number: __________________________ When did you first enter Georgia Tech? __________________________

2. U.S. Social Security Number: __________________________ (used for identification purposes)

3. Full Legal Name:
   Last Name (Family Name) __________________________
   First Name (Personal Name) __________________________
   Middle Name __________________________
   Suffix (e.g., Jr.) __________________________

4. Will we possibly receive records for you under any other name?  ▶ Yes ▶ No  If yes, what name? ____________________________________

5. Permanent Mailing Address
   Street __________________________
   City __________________________
   State __________________________
   Country __________________________ Zip __________________________
   Permanent/Home Telephone __________________________

6. Georgia Tech PO Box:
   Current Mailing Address (if different from PO Box)
   City __________________________
   State __________________________
   Country __________________________ Zip __________________________
   E-mail address: __________________________
   Current Telephone __________________________

7. As an Undergraduate, were you considered a Georgia Resident?  ▶ Yes ▶ No

8. Has your citizenship status changed since you entered Georgia Tech?  ▶ Yes ▶ No
   If yes, you must complete Question 9. If no, go to Question 10.

9. Citizenship
   ▶ U.S. Citizen
   ▶ Non-US Citizen
   Country of Citizenship (if not U.S.): __________________________
   Visa Type (e.g., PR, F1, H1, J1) __________________________
   [If Permanent Resident (PR), you must include a copy of your Alien Registration card, front and back, or you will be coded as International.]

10. Current Academic Level:  ▶ 1st Semester Sophomore ▶ 2nd Semester Sophomore ▶ 1st Semester Junior ▶ Other ________

11. Do you wish to be considered for 5th year (graduate) financial assistance?  ▶ Yes ▶ No  Do you require financial assistance?  ▶ Yes ▶ No

12. Academic History
   A. List each institution after secondary school, including Georgia Tech, that you have attended or are attending. List all postsecondary degrees which have been or will be earned by your planned enrollment date. Continue on a separate sheet if necessary. Official transcripts are required from each institution you attended for a year or more unless they are currently on file with Georgia Tech Office of the Registrar (GIT transcript not required).

   Name of Institution | Location | Attendance From mm/yy | Degree & Major | Degree Date | GPA | On File With GIT
   -------------------|----------|-----------------------|---------------|------------|-----|---------------------
   
   B. GRE (optional) Date taken or to be taken: _____ / _____ (mm/yy) Scores: V _____ (raw) _____(%) Q _____ (raw) _____(%) A _____ (raw) _____(%) (Score)

   TOEFL (required for most non-citizens) Date taken or to be taken _____ / _____ mm/yy Score: ______

Return Completed Form To: Graduate Office
School of Textile & Fiber Engineering
Georgia Institute of Technology
Atlanta, Georgia  30332-0295

I certify that the information provided in this application is true and complete. I understand that omission or misrepresentation of information herein may result in automatic rejection of my application to Georgia Tech. If admitted, I agree to abide by the Rules and Regulations and the Academic Honor Code of the Georgia Institute of Technology.

Signature of Applicant __________________________  Date: __________________________
Name: __________________________________________ Date

Address: __________________________________________

Street

City State Zip

Social Security No. ______________________________ Telephone: _____________________ and __________________ present permanent

Email address: __________________________________________

Degree Program: [ ] MS
[ ] MS in Polymers

IN NO MORE THAN TWO PAGES, PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING:

(1) What will graduate school enable you to accomplish?
(2) What are your interests and ambitions?
(3) How will admission into this program enhance your scholarly and career goals?

USE BACK OF PAGE OR ATTACHMENTS

Mail To: Graduate Office
School of Textile & Fiber Engineering
Georgia Institute of Technology
Atlanta, GA 30332-0295