

*Motion concerning the name change of the Division of Engineering and Applied Sciences to the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences presented before members of Harvard University's Faculty of Arts and Sciences by Venkatesh Narayanamurti on December 12, 2006. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.*

President Bok, Dean Knowles and Colleagues,

I am here today to put before you a motion to change the name of the Division of Engineering and Applied Sciences to the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences. This is a continuation and culmination of the discussion of this topic at the FAS faculty meeting of May 16, where I spoke, along with representatives from the senior and junior DEAS faculty committees on this issue.

You should also have received a Q&A document, which aims to respond to the kinds of questions people within and outside FAS have been asking about the transition from a Division to a School. I trust this has helped allay any concerns about this name change and clarifies the key issues.

I am happy to answer any questions that you might have, but before I do that, I want to stress two key points.

One, engineering and applied sciences can and must make a greater contribution to the educational and research mission of this Faculty and the University.

This name change, by raising the visibility of engineering and applied sciences within and outside Harvard, will help us attract the faculty and students needed as we renew the Division and grow it to an appropriate scale, giving us critical mass in strategic areas and allowing us to better compete with our peers.

Two, the name change does not mean that we will change our academic relationships to FAS. I cannot emphasize enough that we will continue to be part of FAS and maintain our

various academic linkages to this Faculty. I believe we gain much by being a part of FAS and FAS will gain much from a stronger DEAS. This is why the vision for SEAS is to be a school within the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, serving as a connector to its various disciplines and activities and to the professional schools.

I see the transformation of the Division to a School as a natural, evolutionary step. A step that will help us engage in innovative research and educational activities. A step that will further the academic mission of this great, global University. And especially with the increasing role of technology in society, a step that will help to enable Harvard to meet the changing needs of the times and the challenges posed by the future.

I hope you will agree with me.

Thank you.