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7. Explanation of the Change:

The Ph.D. in Agricultural, Biosystems, and Mechanical Engineering program as currently configured is a highly unusual format with a title that is not recognized in the participating disciplines. Qualified students with interest in pursuing research-based careers having backgrounds in Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering or Mechanical Engineering seek programs with names that reflect their specific disciplines. The Ph.D. in Agricultural, Biosystems, and Mechanical Engineering naming convention has hampered recruiting efforts and puts SDSU at a competitive disadvantage with its peers, not only in recruiting students and faculty, but also in competing for external funding. SDSU has requested authorization to offer a Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering. This modification will update the Agricultural, Biosystems, and Mechanical Engineering program name to Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering.

The revisions to the Ph.D. in Agricultural, Biosystems, and Mechanical Engineering program are contingent upon approval of the Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering.