Faculty Senate Resolution 359   **Introduced by**
                                    Faculty Senate Executive Committee

**RESOLUTION ON B.S. DEGREE IN COMPUTER ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY
FOR THE INDUSTRIAL INTERNET OF THINGS (CET-IIOT)**

WHEREAS, the College of Engineering and Applied Science has proposed a new B.S. degree in Computer Engineering Technology for the Industrial Internet of Things (CET-IIOT); and

WHEREAS, both Faculty Senate's Academic Planning Committee (APC) and Faculty Senate Executive have concerns about the proposal; viz.,

- There appears little to no advantage for students to complete the degree since salaries for technicians (= two-year program) and technologists (= the proposed four-year program) are comparable;
- Salaries for technicians and technologists remained flat in the past decade, at an average of ~$50,000 annually (2015 dollars);
- The proposed CET-IIOT degree compares unfavorably in job opportunities, salaries and multistate licensure to a B.S. degree in computer engineering;
- Although a CET-IIOT degree would prepare students for licensure as computer science teachers in Wyoming high schools, most students interested in this career track are more likely to pursue computer science certification, which requires only 20 semester hours of credit and is already available at UW;
- Student demand at this time is small, since only 434 CET degrees awarded nationwide (2016) and institutions with higher enrollments than UW now produce quite modest numbers of CET graduates annually (on average 9/year);
- This is a substantial investment ($500,000/year) at a time of austerity for UW, with many well-established programs lacking adequate funding and personnel; and

WHEREAS, the Advisory Board of Electrical and Computer Engineering approved a draft of this degree proposal by a split vote, with concerns expressed about costs and employer demand, even from those who voted in favor of the proposal; and

WHEREAS, the APC voted unanimously against implementation;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by Faculty Senate that it opposes UW offering at this time a B.S. degree in Computer Engineering Technology for the Industrial Internet of Things, and recommends instead that the proposal be reworked so that concerns expressed above are addressed.