

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING FACULTY ORGANIZATION (CEFO)

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, August 30, 2022, 11:30AM

Lunch available at 11:15AM

EPIC G256

The following individuals signed the attendance sheet:

Minhaj Nur Alam, James Amburgey, Yawo Amengonu, Ahmed Arafa, Yamilka Baez-Rivera, Anthony Bombik, Nan BouSaba, Aidan Browne, Tara Cavalline, Valentina Cecchi, Shen-En Chen, Youxing Chen, Harish Cherukuri, Jim Conrad, Gretchen Dietz, Abasifreke Ebong, Ahmed El-Ghannam, Terence Fagan, Wei Fan, Austin Fifield, Wei Gao, Claudia Garrido Martins, Janos Gergely, Christopher Green, Erina Joyee, Rob Keynton, Saffeer Khan, Jeff Kimble, Christoph Kossack, Lin Ma, Dipankar Maity, Mike Mazzola, Edward Morse, Brigid Mullany, Mariya Munir, Asis Nasipuri, Dave Naylor, John Nettles, David, Newell, Maciej Noras, Vincent Ogunro, Jaewon Oh, Srinivas Pulugurtha, Jeff Raquet, Jacelyn Rice-Boayue, Bienvenido Rodriguez-Medina, William Saunders, Steve Schmid, Sam Shue, Omid Shoghli, Ron Smelser, Kamia Smith, Michael Smith, Kathryn Smith Weldon, Courtney Smith-Orr, Tyler Stover, Mei Sun, Arun Vishnu Suresh Babu, Regina Vrikkis, Ke Wang, Weimin Wang, Dave Weggel, Matthew Whelan, Wesley Williams, Linda Xie, Jun Xu, Terry Xu, In Hong Yang, HiaTao Zhang, Yong Zhang

(70 Attendees)

AGENDA:

1. Welcome and short remarks from CEFO President Aidan Browne

Aidan Browne called the meeting to order at 11:35AM. Agenda was introduced.

Aidan Browne introduced the 2022-2023 mission of CEFO:

- Be the voice of the College faculty community
- Bring public attention to issues of concern within the College community
- Be a consultant to the College Deans/advise on policy and governance issues
- Discuss and hold votes on educational polices, rules, and regulations
- Discuss matters relating to the life of the College and its betterment

2. Introduction of New Faculty Members

Aidan Browne introduced new faculty members. New faculty present provided a short introduction to their background and area of expertise.

3. Approval of Minutes

Meeting minutes from May 5, 2022 were approved unanimously. Minutes are available at: <https://engr.charlotte.edu/faculty-and-staff/cefo-faculty-organization/cefo-meeting-minutes>

4. Dean's Report

COE updates provided by Dean Keynton:

Research awards for COE in FY22 totaled \$13.66M, which placed the college just behind COEd that was awarded \$14.08 M.

Rick Tankersley will be stepping down as Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development.

Commercial for ViewPoint with Dennis Quaid will air on CNN in primetime on September 1. Episode will be televised nationally on PBS on September 12.

World and News Ranking dropped from 114 to 137. College will be looking into the reasons behind this drop.

Updates on state investment Engineering a Smart and Secure Future for NC: Cluster hire positions have been defined. COE will obtain 6 faculty positions. Search committees are being established and will include 5 COE faculty, 1 CCI faculty, and 1 SDS faculty for the positions allocated to COE. Advertisements for cluster hire positions will be posted by the end of September.

Enrollment: Need a net gain of 650 BS, 200 MS, and 40 PhD students by 2026 to meet targets for Engineering a Smart and Secure Future for NC. Current enrollments are lower than last year with new student enrollment and transfer enrollments increased, but a drop in continuing enrollments. Dean Keynton requested that every faculty make an effort to reach out to prospective students to engage their interest in our programs through outreach activities, open houses, and the new “visit experience” for prospective students.

A new Associate Director of Outreach and Recruitment will be hired.

Updates on renovation projects for 2022-2023: Industrial Solutions Laboratory/CAB to Cameron High Bay; NC Motorsports and Automotive Research Center will be replaced by the NC BATTERY Complexity, Autonomous Vehicles & Electrification Research Center (Motorsports programs and Kulwicki Motorsports Laboratory will not be changed with the change in center focus). Designer has been selected for the renovation of existing Burson and expansion.

College Strategic Plan has been completed.

Mission: Transform lives, communities, and industries through student-centered applied learning, powerful partnerships and convergent research.

Vision: Globally recognized for innovative research, meaningful mentorship and a theory-to-practice education that creates thought leaders and enhances social mobility.

Goals:

- 1) Empower students with the intellectual and professional skills to succeed and thrive in a changing world.
- 2) Grow a lifelong, inclusive and connected community for all.
- 3) Elevate global research prominence in strategic areas.

MOUs established with Hochschule Niederrhein University of Applied Sciences and Hochschule Karlsruhe. Contingent from Hochschule Karlsruhe visiting on September 9 and contingent from Hochschule Niederrhein University of Applied Sciences visiting October 23-27, 2022. Two scholarships per year have been created for our students to travel to Hochschule Karlsruhe to attend

classes and work at Burkert Fluid Control Systems, with the focus of this program currently being electrical engineering.

College-wide Events:

September 9: Visit from Hochschule Karlsruhe

September TBD: First COR research awards luncheon

October 16-18: ABET accreditation visit

October 23-27: Visit from Hochschule Neiderrhein

October 29: new “visit experience” for prospective students

November 18-19: first COE alumni awards dinner, followed by annual alumni open house

2023: Grand opening of the N.C. Battery Complexity, Autonomous Vehicles and Electrification Research Center (“BATT CAVE”)

Fall 2023: New ISL opens.

Wes Williams inquired as to whether Industrial Solutions Laboratory/CAB capabilities will simply be moved or expanded. Dean Keynton noted that the capabilities are being moved into the Cameron High Bay to provide larger space and a more welcoming environment in order to establish a showcase space. It is expected that the move may facilitate the expansion of some capabilities.

5. Committee Overview

Aidan Browne introduced the standing committees. Committees will need to meet to establish committee chairs. Committees will provide updates at next CEFO meeting.

6. Vacant Positions

Nominations and volunteers were sought for the vacant positions listed below. Individuals volunteering for open positions are indicated in bold italicized font. The CEFO Executive Committee will circulate descriptions of remaining positions and nominate individuals to positions remaining vacant.

- CEFO Parliamentarian:
- University Committee Representative (and Alternate)
 - University College Faculty Council – for COE: ***Courtney Smith-Orr; Wes Williams***
 - Part-Time Faculty Committee – for COE:
- University Committee Alternates
 - Faculty Academic Policy and Standards Committee (FAPSC): ***Jeff Kimble***
 - Faculty Advisory Summer Sessions Committee (FASSC): ***Regina Vrikkis***
 - Faculty Legacy Scholarship Committee (FLSC):
 - Faculty Research Grants Committee: ***Rob Cox, In Hong Yang***
 - Faculty Welfare Committee:
- SEEM Representative for:
 - University Faculty Council: ***Ertunga Ozelkan***
 - COE Academic Policy and Curriculum Committee (CEAPCC): ***Churlzu Lim***
 - COE Diversity and Inclusion Committee (CEDAIC):

- COE Computing Facilities Advisory Committee (CFAC):

7. New Business

Policy 50.5

Brid Mullany provided an update on University Policy 50.5, which was updated on July 1, 2022 and the changes to graduate student compensation requirements were made effective immediately. Graduate student compensation is now administered solely by the Graduate School. Every Graduate program on campus is permitted to adopt customized packages for Research Assistants and Teaching Assistants. These packages may be different, but they must adhere to the published minimum requirements, which currently are \$14,000 per 9-month appointment and in-state tuition support. All proposals must include a flat \$6000 per year “cost of education” for PhD students, which will increase next year. If you hire an in-state student that does not use the full \$6000 in tuition, then the residual can be reallocated in the fund, if permitted by the sponsor. GASP rules have also changed and will now include Masters students supported on GA.

The complete policy, procedures, and guidelines are available at: <https://graduateschool.charlotte.edu/faculty-and-staff-resources/student-support/student-funding-assistantships>

College of Engineering packages for the 2022/2023 academic year are published at: <https://graduateschool.charlotte.edu/faculty-and-staff-resources/student-support/standard-graduate-student-compensation-packages>

To keep things simple due to the timeline of the rollout and the number of existing support packages already established for students, the packages in COE were kept the same for 2022/2023 academic year, but these will be revisited for the 2023/2024 academic year.

There is no change in the current requirement that components of a student’s compensation plan cannot be paid “a la carte” from a grant. If you fund a student 50% from a grant, then the funding needs to include all components of the compensation plan (stipend, tuition, fees, etc.).

Ed Morse asked for more information on the expansion of GASP to Masters students. Brid Mullany suggested that it is currently safe to assume that Engineering will not receive GASP for Masters students.

Mike Mazzola asked for clarification on conformance of RA and TA packages. Compensation packages are established for each individual Graduate Program. The compensation package for RA can be different than the compensation package for TA. In future years, they may need to be different simply because of restrictions on the use of state funds to pay student fees.

Wes Williams asked about procedure for grants that do not allow for charging of tuition. In these cases, you can increase the stipend to compensate. Dean Keynton encouraged us to work together to utilize cost sharing and indirect costs to cover tuition expenses on projects where direct expensing of tuition is not permitted.

RED office updates: IGNITE program is up and running again. ArtsXSci opportunity next week, RSVP by this evening.

CEFO Mission and Activities in 2022/2023

Aidan Browne initiated a brainstorming session to solicit input from faculty on the mission of CEFO and how the organization can best serve the faculty over the coming year.

Ed Morse suggested that faculty members on University Committees be given short time segments to share information related to what is going on at University Committees.

Asis Nasipuri noted that we often have a disconnect between administrative decisions at RED and at the Graduate School. Faculty inputs are not collected at the right time in the decision making process so we end up often having little voice in changes to University policies and procedures that greatly affect us. Aidan Browne suggested that CEFO can have a voice by being more proactive in passing motions that we can funnel up to administrators.

Jim Conrad mentioned that we can devote time in each meeting to giving individual faculty with a few minutes to create awareness of their areas of expertise.

Harish Cherukuri suggested that the CEFO Executive Committee provide faculty with the opportunity to add items to the CEFO meeting agendas.

Maciej Noras asked for an update on the development of COE Policies and Procedures. CEFO Executive Committee has decided to temporarily table that effort. Executive Committee will be meeting with the Dean to discuss the next steps in this process.

Yamilka Baez-Rivera discussion on changes in University rules and how they impact us so that we can work collaboratively as a college to address new issues rather than each department having to find creative solutions individually.

Harish Cherukuri mentioned that CEFO used to invite guest speakers from around campus to give presentations on support available through various University offices. Aidan Browne noted that the Executive Committee decided last year to minimize the number of guest speakers based on feedback received following prior presentations.

Aidan Browne announced the CEFO meeting schedule for the coming academic year, which includes meetings on August 30, October 25, December 6, January 17, March 7, and April 25. All meetings will be held from 11:30am to 12:45pm in EPIC G256.

8. Closing

Motion to adjourn was made and seconded at 12:42PM.