

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING FACULTY ORGANIZATION (CEFO)

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, January 17, 2023, 11:30AM

Lunch available at 11:15AM

DUKE 345

The following individuals signed the attendance sheet:

Minhaj Nur Alam, Sid Alvis, Yawo Amengonu, Kelly Anderson, Ahmed Arafa, Yamilka Baez_Rivera, Nicole Barclay, Christina Biela, Cathy Blat, Anthony Bombik, Tara Cavalline, Valentina Cecchi, Shenen Chen, Yuting Chen, Harish Cherukuri, Jim Conrad, John Daniels, Michelle Demers, Abasifreke Ebong, Ahmed El-Ghannam, Terence Fagan, Wei Fan, Austin Fifield, Wei Gao, Gwendolyn Gill, Christopher Green, Meg Harkins, Simon Hsiang, Erina Joyee, Olya Keen, Rob Keynton, Saffeer Khan, Milind Khire, Dan Latta, Kevin Lindsay, Lin Ma, Dipankar Maity, Madhav Manjrekar, Mike Mazzola, Jimmie Miller, Edward Morse, Brigid Mullany, Asis Nasipuri, Dave Naylor, John Nettles, David Newell, Vincent Ogunro, Jaewon Oh, Belinda Parker, Jeff Raquet, Arun Ravindran, Ron Smelser, Sam Shue, Kamia Smith, Courtney Smith-Orr, Tyler Stover, Arun Vishnu Suresh Babu, Brett Tempest, Ke Wang, Erika Weber, Qiuming Wei, Matthew Whelan, Linda Xie, Jun Xu, Terry Xu, In Hong Yang, HaiTao Zhang, Yong Zhang

(68 Attendees)

AGENDA:

1. Welcome and short remarks from CEFO President Aidan Browne

Aidan Browne called the meeting to order at 11:38AM and introduced the agenda.

2. Approval of Minutes

Meeting minutes from December 6, 2022 were approved unanimously. Minutes are available at: <https://enr.charlotte.edu/faculty-and-staff/cefo-faculty-organization/cefo-meeting-minutes>

3. Parliamentarian

Aidan Browne issued a call for a volunteer for the still vacant CEFO Parliamentarian position. Any interested individuals can contact members of the CEFO Executive Committee.

4. Introduction of New Faculty

New faculty members starting

Dr. Belinda Parker – Director of the Engineering Learning Community

Ms. Kelly Anderson – Associate Director of Outreach

Dr. Farah Deeba – Assistant Professor (ECE)

Dr. Hunter Bachman – Teaching Assistant Professor

5. Dean's Report

Dean Keynton welcomed faculty back for the Spring semester. Updates from the Dean's office will be provided at the next CEFO meeting in February.

6. Researcher Speed Dating

Jim Conrad introduced the concept of researcher speed dating and invited the speakers to provide the synopsis of their research. This meeting, overviews of faculty research were provided by Tina Chen (ETCM department – construction safety and mental health; railroad trespassing), Shenen Chen (CEGR department – rail energy technologies: zero emission propulsion, rail transportation visualization, high speed rail, maglev trains, emissions research, hydrogen propulsion), Arun Ravindran (ECE – systems software IoT, Edge, Cloud).

Volunteers interested in providing a summary of their research at upcoming CEFO meetings should contact Jim Conrad.

7. Alumni Engagement

Christine Biela provided information on alumni engagement and upcoming events to connect with alumni:

- Alumni in the classroom: Christine can help to find guest speakers for your classroom. There are both virtual and in-person options. Can also consider developing a panel of alumni guest speakers.
- If you arrange for an alumni guest speaker on your own, please notify Christine so that the College has a record of it.
- Engineering Alumni Council – meets quarterly; mission is to strengthen the connections between alumni and students and to raise the visibility of the College in the Charlotte region and beyond.
- Beer with an Engineer event coming up on either March 28 or 29. This year will be in-person at a brewery and will feature a faculty speaker.
- If you have a need to contact large groups of past alumni and are looking to source contact information, please notify Christine at least a month in advance as lists of all alumni from departments are not readily available. Email communications need to go through communications team.

8. "State of Research" presentation

John Daniels provided an update on the Division of Research. The Division is guiding the implementation of the University strategic plan, roadmap to research top tier, and a Division of Research strategic plan. The benefits of research growth to the University, individual faculty, and the broader community were highlighted. Carnegie methodology was briefly discussed. Division of Research has been reorganized to make it more streamlined and focused on research. A Shared Services Model is being implemented. There has been a focus on improving internal partnerships to ensure timely, consistent communication with faculty and improve some of our persistent pain points. There will be an upcoming call for center proposals. Internal seed money is being invested strategically into the identified areas of excellence. FRG, Ignite, and ArtXSci has injected \$1.19M into internal research (43 funded Faculty Research Grants). Division of Research will be launching an "ideas" submission and starting listening sessions to connect with faculty and staff. NinerResearch/InfoEd is being revamped to improve the workflow and sourcing of data.

9. Old Business

Aidan provide an update on previous topics:

- CFAC is defining new laptop requirements for students and a plan to update various University and College websites. This effort is being led by Linette Voytovich. Faculty vote on the recommendation will be made during March 7 meeting. Goal is to have the requirement in place for the next academic year.
- ExCom is finalizing a draft of an updated policy on the College consent calendar for curriculum changes. This policy will be distributed to Faculty on February 24.

10. New Business

Aidan introduced an effort to open discussion on College-wide courses (Freshman Experience, Professional Development, Capstone) to see what, if any, changes may be needed to keep the College relevant, modern, competitive, and to support the strategic plans.

There will be three special Zoom meetings to brainstorm ideas:

- February 7, 11:30-12:30 – Topic: Freshman Experience
- February 14, 11:30-12:30 – Topic: Professional Development
- February 21, 11:30-12:30 – Topic: Capstone

11. Closing

Aidan reviewed the remaining CEFO schedule of meetings for this academic year (March 7 and April 25). Faculty are encouraged to consider committee memberships that they are interested in volunteering for or that they can nominate individuals to. Motion to adjourn was made and seconded at 12:36 PM.