

# MINUTES

## COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING FACULTY ORGANIZATION (CEFO)

**Thursday, February 16, 2012, 12:30 PM**

**College of Education Building, Room 065**

The following individuals signed the attendance sheet:

- COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING: R. Johnson, R. Smelser, J. Stein
- CIVIL ENGINEERING: J. Gergely, M. Kane, D. Young
- ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING: R. Adams, J. Bird, N. Bousaba, I. Ferguson, S. Kamalasan, A. Nasipuri, Z. Salami, T. Weldon, A. Willis, A. Martin
- ENGINEERING MANAGEMENT: C. Lim, G. Teng
- ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY: A. Brizendine, A. Browne, N. Byars, D. Chen, C-S. Cho, B. Gehrig, D. Hoch, P. Juneja, J. Kimble, N. Lu, D. Murphy, C. Orozco, R. Priebe, P. Schmidt, D. Sharer, B. Sherlock, P. Tolley
- MECHANICAL ENGINEERING AND ENGINEERING SCIENCE: A. El-Ghannam, H. Fang, R. Hocken, E. Morse, Scott Smith, A. Tabarraei, M. Uddin, Q. Wei
- OSDS: D. Blackmon, K. Franco, M. Harkins, T. Jordan, D. Latta
- GUESTS: None

Documented attendance: 50 total.

### **1. Welcome**

CEFO president Martin Kane called the meeting to order at 12:32 p.m.

### **2. Approval of Minutes (CEFO Secretary Barry Sherlock)**

A motion to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2011 CEFO meeting was seconded and passed. Past minutes are kept on the CEFO website at <http://www.coe.uncc.edu/faculty-and-staff/coe-faculty-organization.html>

### **3. College Committees Update (CEFO President-Elect Jeff Kimble)**

The annual elections to University and College committees will soon be held.

Each COE Department must pick a representative and alternate for service on the Faculty Council.

There will also be openings on the following Committees:

- CEFO President elect
- CEFO Secretary
- CEFO Parliamentarian
- Faculty Academic Policy and Standards Committee (FAPSC)
- Faculty Competitive Grants Committee (FCGC)

- Undergraduate Course and Curriculum Committee (UGCC)
- Faculty Information Technology Services Advisory Committee (FITSAC)
- Faculty Research Grants Committee (FRGC)
- Graduate Council
- Faculty Welfare Committee

Faculty are encouraged to nominate themselves or others to the above positions. A nomination form will be distributed – or email nominations to Jeff Kimble ([jkimble@uncc.edu](mailto:jkimble@uncc.edu)).

### **3A. Discover Engineering (Karina Franco)**

We are about 6 weeks away from our Discover Engineering open house. We invite prospective students from high schools to this event. It will be held on a Friday, and the assistance of volunteers will be greatly appreciated.

### **4. Update on SACS QEP (Patty Tolley)**

UNC-Charlotte will be undergoing an accreditation reaffirmation by SACS in 2013. Reaffirmation requires that the institution have a QEP (Quality Enhancement Plan). After soliciting and evaluating proposals for the QEP, it was decided that our QEP will be Freshman Engagement. QEP Committee members from COE are Patty Tolley, Nan Byars, Jim Bowen, Kevin Lawton and Jim Conrad.

The QEP will be measured against three outcomes: Commitment to success; Learning and inquiry; and Intercultural knowledge.

We are fortunate in that the College has much already in place to support freshman engagement, much of it in Intro to Engineering. The University recognizes that we are further along than any other college, and as a result they are providing \$25,000 in funding for us to pilot this next year.

### **5. Department Updates (Department Chairs)**

Each COE Department Chairperson gave a brief presentation on the status of the Department. Presentations were given by Scott Smith (Mechanical Engineering and Engineering Science), Tony Brizendine (Engineering Technology and Construction Management), Ian Ferguson (Electrical and Computer Engineering), and David Young (Civil Engineering). After the meeting, the CEFO Secretary invited the Department Chairs to submit their presentations for posting on the CEFO web page along with the minutes.

### **6. College Update (Dean Bob Johnson)**

Instructors are encouraged to get their Senior students to participate in the National Survey of Student Engagement. Having a representative group involved will be valuable for SACS and QEP.

As a result of Bill Heybruck's forthcoming departure, there will be a major reorganization within the College. The position of ISL Director will be embedded within the Office of Student Development and Success. Reasons for this change include (1) to better integrate the design experience for students from Freshman year to Senior year, (2) to enable better coordination between Linda Thurman and the director of ISL, and (3) to get optimal use out of the staff person working in ISL. We are starting a search for a Director to replace Bill Heybruck, and we will try to ensure continuity by having overlap between the new and departing ISL directors.

Dean Johnson has been working with faculty having connections in China, to identify a target list of Universities where we would make an effort to recruit graduate students. We need to get the list down to about 5 universities. The target region is Shanghai and some nearby locations, to make visits there practical and cost-effective. We would like to make our first visit in October.

The opening of the EPIC building has been delayed until April 1. There will be some difficulties with parking the first month of the fall semester until the parking deck opens. The Duke Building has a lot of small classrooms, so EPIC was designed with large classrooms.

There is no news on the budget. The state economy seems to be slowly recovering. For the first time in two decades the COE dropped in undergraduate enrollment (by 50 students). Graduate enrollment increased substantially, however. Student-to-faculty ratio has been creeping upwards, but EPIC is helping to stabilize that.

#### **7. Announcements (Martin Kane)**

The College Review Committee has to write a report on the Dean and Assistant Deans, and will be sending out a survey. Please take the opportunity to provide feedback.

At the last UAC meeting, a new form was adopted that must be completed whenever an Incomplete (I) grade is assigned.

Next week is Engineers Week. Wednesday night is “Wing Wednesday”, at Picassos Sports Cafe, 4-7p.m.

#### **8. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:46 p.m.