

College of Engineering (COE)
Minutes of Spring 2000 Faculty Meeting
6 April 2000

1. **Welcome.** Dean Fouke welcomed the assembled faculty to the spring meeting.
2. **Approval of October 1998 and October 1999 COE Faculty Meeting Minutes.** Fisher made the motion, seconded by Altiero, that both sets of minutes be approved. Passed unanimously.
3. **Tenure and Promotion Issues.** The dean discussed the concerns that she had heard (from various faculty members) regarding the college-level tenure and promotion process. These included: variance among department committees, college committees, and college recommendations to the provost; untenured assistant professors on college committees; myopic view of college committees (e.g., members who do not read the entire portfolio, advocacy by committee members); role of issues discussed in committee but not reflected in the portfolio; and department chairpersons as an advisory group to the dean (when they are already in the process at the departmental administration level). These issues had been passed on to the ECAC which studied them in depth (that review included discussions at the departmental level).

4. **Update on Task Forces.**

Bioengineering. Crimp described the task force's charge, activities, and outcomes of those activities. The latter included: inclusion of COE research foci within the Bioengineering Task Force for the Life Sciences Corridor; and the preparation of a proposal to the Whitaker Foundation to establish a biomedical engineering program in the college.

Communications and Marketing. Wolff described the task force activities which had been led by Cotner and indicated that the report was available at the COE web site. He also noted that the document becomes, in part, a job description for Cotner's replacement and that the advertisement for her replacement would be out soon.

Research Productivity. Discussion of this was deferred until the fall meeting.

Life Sciences Corridor (LSC). Wade outlined the processes, procedures, and deadlines regarding the LSC activities (e.g., deadline information). Her office is the coordinating focal point for engineering-based proposals and so forth. [There have been numerous college-wide e-mail messages on this topic since the faculty meeting with much more current information.]

5. **Development Update.**

Capital Campaign. The dean reported that a strategy committee (university level) has been formed consisting of a few deans, development personnel, and others. They will deal with issues such as retention of development officers, relationships between colleges and central administration, criteria for naming labs and buildings. The magnitude of the goal has yet to be decided although gifts are being “counted” as of 1 July 99 with the leadership phase running 2000-2001 and the campaign itself from 2002 to 2007.

ARES. Schock reported on the status of the this laboratory. A site near RCE has been identified and about a \$12 million facility is being planned with support from industry, major private donors, and the university. This is seen as a major permanent facility which will solidify MSU in a leadership role in auto industry-related research.

CIS. There was no real report regarding this laboratory although it was hoped that the approval for construction of the facility would go to the trustees this summer.

Koenig Professorship. Asmussen reported that an endowment had been received for a chaired professorship in electrical engineering.

6. **Faculty Recruiting Update.** Chairs of the various search committees reported on progress to date. While some committees were already interviewing candidates, others were still sifting through candidates. [Virtually all information presented at the faculty meeting has been out-dated by more recent developments.]
7. **Strategic Plan Exercise.** The dean reported that the graduate school has been encouraging colleges to undertake external reviews of their graduate and research programs. It is now the intent that all COE departments will undertake an external review over the next several months (with actual visits of external reviewers during the fall).
8. **Dean’s Comments.** The dean outlined some of her immediate concerns and those activities in which she was currently involved. These included: recruiting an additional development officer and a new publicity person; providing additional training for selected staff; a heavy first-year (at least) emphasis on making alumni contacts (including international alumni); increasing communication with alumni via publications and the web pages; establishing a task force on IGEE; establishing a task force to assess computer services; emphasizing graduate recruiting; continuing progress on faculty recruiting; building and maintaining industry connections; increasing the focus on development including such things as working with the alumni board and the GOLD club; and a major emphasis on making new contacts across all dimensions of the MSU COE community.
9. **Items from the Faculty.** Comment was made regarding the continued erosion of library and related resources. The point was made that resources (money) should be being spent on books and journals and not just more on computer-oriented aspects of the library.

10. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:30. The next meeting (in the fall) will be announced.