

## College of Engineering Faculty Meeting

October 25, 2012

### Minutes

**Present:** Balasubramaniam, Benard, Biswas, Boehlert, Briedis, Buch, Chatti, Choi, Cloud, Colbry, Crimp, Diaz, Dillon, Feeny, Friedrich, Griffore, Grotjohn, Grummon, Gunn, Hodge, Hoole, Idema, Jaber, Kempel, King, Koochesfahani, Lillehoj, X. Liu, Lunt, Lyles, Manta, Marks, Mitchell-Blackwood, Morelli, Motschenbacher, Mutka, Narayan, Nicolas, Pence, Pourboghra, Rosenberg, Salem, Schock, Sepulveda Alancastro, Srivastava, Sticklen, X. Tan, S. Udpa, Verboncoeur, Vergara, Walker, Whitehead, Wichman, Wolff

#### 1. Approval of the Agenda

Agenda was approved.

#### 2. Promoting our students for prestigious scholarships - Daina Briedis

Prof. Briedis discussed the processes involved in pushing our students toward prestigious scholarships, such as Rhodes and Churchill. She emphasized the need for faculty members to identify and encourage students who are well suited to apply for these awards. Daina Briedis and Katy Colbry will work with faculty members and students to sharpen letters and essays.

#### 3. Approval of minutes of March 15, 2012 meeting

Minutes were approved without corrections.

#### 4. Introduction of new faculty and staff- Chairpersons

ME Chairperson Alex Diaz introduced Peter Lillehoj - Assistant Professor  
BAE Chairperson Ajit Srivastava introduced Jane Mitchell - Assistant Professor  
CS Chairperson Matt Mutka introduced Xiaoming Liu - Assistant Professor  
Associate Dean Leo Kempel introduced Mary Ann Walker - Director of International Programs

#### 5. College Priorities - Faculty Input and Discussion

- Andre Bendard gave a brief report on Analysis of the Engineering School Rankings (based on US News and World Report). A simple model using data entered in an Excel spreadsheet to determine what factors most strongly affect the ability to move in rankings was presented.
- The floor was opened for discussion.
  - Interaction with industry appears to be missing from ranking criteria.
- The role of rankings and if it is better to chase rankings, or better to build and strengths and become a recognized leader was discussed.
- Dean Udpa introduced ideas of new paradigms for teaching.
- New open access models for teaching were discussed. What is value, what is cost structure?

- Issues with academic honesty are critical in assessing these courses and those who have taken them.
- Large, online courses have the potential to reduce the time to degree.
- Large online, open enrollment courses will most likely be more suitable for lower division, high volume courses.
- We need to be able to identify what is the value in taking courses at MSU and in the CoE. How do we identify and market our value? Can we offer the same or better value than that offered by bigger name institutions?
- There was a motion to constitute a committee to examine these issues. The motion was not seconded and no vote was taken.
- A number of people volunteered to serve on an ad hoc committee to examine these issues.

**6. MSU Community Charitable Campaign - Craig Gunn**

Craig Gunn introduced how the MSU Community Charitable Campaign has introduced an online pledge system.

**7. Grade Changes Without Faculty Approval**

S. Ratnajeevan H. Hoole outline a situation where a grade he had assigned was changed without his approval. Discussion ensued.

**8. Social Hour**

- Meeting was adjourned. Social hour followed.

Respectfully submitted

Martin Crimp, Secretary, Engineering College Advisory Committee