

College of Engineering Faculty Meeting Minutes
Michigan State University
Thursday, March 19, 2009

FINAL

1. **Agenda for March 19, 2009 College of Engineering Faculty Meeting:** agenda distributed by email prior to meeting and a printed copy was approved at the beginning of the meeting without changes.
2. **Approve Minutes from the October 16, 2008 College Faculty Meeting:** passed without changes.
3. **Status of College- Dean Satish Udpa:** presented budget scenarios associated with the anticipated cuts. Included was a review of the anticipated percentages of the cuts over the next 3 years, likely expenses, and the impact of the cuts if absorbed by salaries or tuition.
4. **Status of Research- Dr. Leo Kempel, Associate Dean for Research**
 - Compared funding amounts and sources from 2002 and 2008. In 2008, the sources are more diverse, with more expenditures associated with DOD and NIH.
 - Because of the stimulus package, opportunities for funding at NSF, NIH, and DOE are unusually high.
 - NSF will have a midterm call for proposals to purchase major equipment. The call is expected at any time.
 - Strongly recommend preparing proposals for Career awards because of a substantial increase in funding for the remainder of the year.
5. **Status of Graduate Studies- Dr. Manooch Koochesfahani, Associate Dean for Graduate Students and Faculty Development:** the combination BS-MS option was initiated on March 18, 2009 for the graduate Civil, Environmental, Mechanical, Computer Science, and Electrical Engineering Programs. Up to 9 credits can be shared between the BS and MS degrees. The option will be available for the other graduate programs in the near future.
6. **Status of Undergraduate Studies- Dr. Tom Wolff, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies**
 - Enrollment trends were briefly reviewed. A substantial increase in applicants, admits, and paid deposits were noted.
 - Dr. Neeraj Buch has been named director of the Cornerstone Experience and Residential Experience Programs. Both are fully launched.
 - The Residential Experience Program will move from Bailey Hall to Wilson Hall in the Fall of 2009.
 - The NSF STEP Program has been launched with the first group of connector faculty assigned to students. Additional faculty members will be solicited as the number of participating students increases.
 - Study abroad programs were discussed.
 - The number of students participating is down.
 - Mechanical and Electrical Engineering have new study abroad programs.
 - Study abroad programs are receiving emphasis from the University.
 - A realignment of staff in the student advising office is expected to occur this summer.
 - The diversity of employers participating in The Center activities is increasing.

- The Engineering Education Group is looking into submitting additional proposals relating to engineering education.
7. **All-University Campaign- Lyndsay Cook, Development Office - Engineering:** campaign is ongoing, started in February and proceeding until June. However, donations are accepted any time.
 8. **Status of teaching effectiveness initiative- Dr. Rick Lyles, Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering**
 - The document "A Framework for Action: Improving and Evaluating Teaching Effectiveness" prepared by the Teaching Effectiveness Task Committee was sent to faculty members by email.
 - A PowerPoint presentation on proposed activities was presented.
 - A vote by the faculty accepted the report and recommendation for implementation.
 9. **Status of College Strategic Planning- Dr. Shanker Balasubramaniam, Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering**
 - The document "College of Engineering Strategic Plan (Draft)" was emailed but a section was missing. The complete report will be emailed soon.
 - PowerPoint presentation was provided that included a review of the document and strategic objectives.
 - Input is solicited and should be sent to a faculty member's department representative or directly to Dr. Balasubramaniam.
 - The report is anticipated to be finalized within 1 month.
 - Once completed, a ballot will be sent to faculty to vote on its acceptance.
 10. **Proposed Changes to College By-Laws- Dr. Shanker Balasubramaniam, Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering**
 - Proposed changes to the College By-Laws were distributed. The changes entail the division of the Engineering Research and Graduate Studies Committee into 2 committees, one for research and one for graduate studies.
 - An amendment to add "graduate" before any mention of "course" was proposed.
 - A ballot will be sent to faculty to vote on accepting the changes to the amendment.
 - A recommendation will be made to the EUSC to add "undergraduate" before any mention of "course."
 11. **Introduction of New Faculty and Staff (Chairpersons):** the Chairs, or their representatives, introduced recently hired faculty and staff members.

Respectfully Submitted:
Steve Safferman