

**College of Engineering Faculty Meeting Minutes  
Michigan State University  
Thursday, October 29, 2009**

FINAL

**1. Approve Minutes from the March 19, 2009 College Faculty Meeting:** passed without changes.

**2. Introduction of New Faculty and Staff**

**3. Comments and Questions on Last Year's Committee Reports and Activities:**  
Nothing recorded

**4. Update on College and University Budget, Dean Udpa**

- Discussed need to maintain core College values even in times of severe budget cuts.
- Discussed cost cutting actions sent forward to the Board of Trustees.
- Provided very specific actions taken relating to budget cuts, including the following.
  - Several open faculty positions will not be filled.
  - Several open staff positions will not be filled or will be moved to research funding.
  - Substantial reduction in recurring budgets.
  - Several teaching assistantships will not be filled.
  - Support for undergraduate research positions will be reduced.
  - Currents will change to a web-based format.
- Status of programs in the College was discussed including Development, Center/Spartan Engineering, Diversity, Center of Engineering Research, and Division of Engineering Computing Services.
- Trajectory of freshman composite and Math ACT scores were discussed.
- College has a lot to be optimistic about, including the following.
  - Productivity measures are up.
  - Strong faculty and staff.
  - Alignment of research with university and national goals.
  - Substantial success with proposal activities for large centers.

**5. Update on Research Activities Over the past Year, Associate Dean Kempel**

- Research expenditures are on a very positive trajectory.
- Sources of funding were discussed and compared for FY 06-07 and FY 07-08.
- National Science Foundation has higher FY10 funding than in FY09, although not appropriated yet. Amounts for the sub-directorates were presented.
- Department of Defense research funding projections for FY10 were presented. The Energy Hub programs and Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy program were specifically discussed.
- National Institute of Health projected funding was discussed.

## **6. Update on Graduate Studies, Associate Dean Koochesfahani**

- Data from the US News 2009 ranking was reviewed including MSU's low # Ph.D. students/Faculty ratio.
- The 12 year graph of M.S. and Ph.D. enrollment and earned degrees was presented. Ph.D. enrollment has been climbing over the past 3 years and is at a 10 year high. Although M.S. enrollment is slightly up this year it is still very low compared to 6 years ago.
- Ph.D. median time to degree for each engineering department was graphically shown.
- Ph.D. retention has been increasing constantly for the last 5 years with a substantial increase from 2007 to 2008.

## **7. Update on Undergraduate Studies, Associate Dean Wolff**

- A 10 year enrollment graph showed recent increases in freshmen enrolment and rising ACT scores.
- The Spartan Engineering residential experience is launched with ~300 students participating this year. Seminars and advising in Wilson Hall are now ongoing.
- Enrolment in EGR 101 and EGR 102 was reviewed.
- The second phase of the CPATH/CPACE NSF grant was awarded.
- Center for Engineering Education has grown with encouragement to increase the number of active faculty in its activities.
- Thanks were given to faculty engaged with the Connector Faculty program.
- The Applied Engineering Sciences program is being reviewed.
- Number of employers at the Career Gallery has decreased. Students are encouraged to attend.
- The Diversity Programs Office has a proposal for a 5 year renewal of the NSF-LSAMP retention grant.
- Academic dishonesty was disused, including the new tracking and reporting requirements.

## **8. Public Comment:** Nothing recorded

Respectfully Submitted:

Steven Safferman