

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Faculty Meeting Minutes

May 12, 2008

1. The meeting was called to order by Dean Butler at 2:30 p.m. in 2229 Seamans Center. In attendance were: Dean P.B. Butler, A.B. Scranton, K.B. Chandran, N.M. Grosland, M.A. Mackey, M.L. Raghavan, J.M. Reinhardt, D.G. Wilder, G.R. Carmichael, C.A. Guymon, J. Jessop, S.F. Rahmatalla, C.C. Swan, R.R. Beichel, G.E. Christensen, S. Dasgupta, C. Beckermann, L.N. Boyle, L-D. Chen, J.D. Lee, C-L. Lin, S. Rahman, A. Ratner, R.I. Stephens, G.W. Thomas, and O.I. Zhupanska.
2. The motion to approve the December 18, 2007, meeting minutes was approved, using a new electronic voting system, without amendment (22 yes; 2 no; 0 abstain).
3. A motion was made to approve the list of degree candidates for spring 2008 commencement (pending final approval from the Registrar). The motion was approved without amendment (24 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain).
4. Old Business:

R. Stephens expressed the need for bigger classroom spaces with capacities of more than 80 students.

Dean Butler responded to this question and suggested several solutions; one of these solutions was breaking the class into multiple sessions. Another solution was to negotiate and get more time from other college/department lecturers who are using 1505 SC.
5. New Business:
 - a. Faculty Committee Reports:

Note: Reports are available on the following website:
<http://www.engineering.uiowa.edu/faculty-minutes/>

 - i. Curriculum Committee:

M. Mackey presented the committee's report and the work conducted during the previous year.

S. Dasgupta asked about the difficulty in accessing the Math survey. Dean Scranton commented on that and encouraged the faculty to inform him if they have difficulty accessing the survey.
 - ii. Information Technology Committee:

C-L. Lin presented the report of this committee.

There were some concerns about the termination of software that is not meeting the usage requirement set by the IT committee. C-L. Lin replied and assured that any software that is needed will be supported.

iii. Promotion and Tenure Committee:

S. Dasgupta presented the report of this committee, which summarizes the responses of this committee to the charges listed in their report. The committee recommended three motions to the College of Engineering Faculty (section 5.c of these meeting minutes). Dean Butler requested holding the discussion until reaching the motions in item 5.c of the agenda of this meeting.

iv. Teaching Committee:

J. Reinhardt presented the findings and the recommendations of this committee.

There was a concern about the low turnout in the student responses to the ACE survey. S. Dasgupta expressed his concerns about the effect of low turnout on critical issues like tenure. S. Rahman said that the EFC committee discussed this issue in one of their meetings. Dean Butler shared the concerns and suggested looking for more options and making sure that everyone is comfortable with that.

There was a discussion about creating a student workshop. C. Beckermann suggested the possibility of expanding the current available spaces. Dean Butler said that he is working on a space in the chemistry building that can accommodate up to six different groups and there is a high possibility of having the space available to the students by fall.

v. Engineering Faculty Council (EFC):

S. Rahman presented a summary of the major activities of this committee for the academic year 2007-2008.

b. Dean's Committee Report

i. Lectures Committee

D.G. Wilder presented the lectures that have been provided to the campus during the academic year.

c. EFC Motions:

i. Motion I on new appointments from other colleges:

The motion was approved without amendment (25 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain).

ii. Motion II on the promotion of adjunct professors:

The motion was approved without amendment (23 yes; 0 no; 2 abstain).

iii. Motion III on deadline for DCG meeting where vote is taken:

There was a discussion about changing the language of this motion. Based on that, the motion was amended and approved (23 yes; 0 no; 2 abstain).

The P&T committee moves that the following be inserted after the first sentence in item IV E.4 of the College of Engineering CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES FOR FACULTY APPOINTMENTS, EVALUATIONS, AND PROMOTIONS:

1. Original Motion

It is highly desirable that the final DCG meeting be held at a time when all DCG members can participate. At any rate the DCG chair should give at least one week's notice of this meeting, unless an earlier meeting with full participation is possible.

2. Amended Motion

It is highly desirable that the DCG meeting at which the final vote is taken be held at a time when all DCG members can attend. The DCG chair shall give at least one week's notice of this meeting, unless an earlier meeting with full attendance is possible.

Rationale for motion III: Since this meeting is the only forum where DCG members can vote, it is desirable that adequate notice be provided.

iv. Motion IV on reappointment review of DEO/Director:

There was a discussion about the difference in the procedures of reappointment review for DEO and Center Directors. L.N. Boyle suggested two separate motions for the reappointment review, one for the reappointment review of the DEO and one for the reappointment of Center Directors. As Chair of EFC, S. Rahman accepted her suggestion as a friendly amendment to the motion. Based on this principle, the motion was approved for the DEO only (22 yes; 3 no; 0 abstain). Another motion will be constructed for the reappointment review for the Directors.

d. Discussion on Leadership, Ethics, and Professionalism Initiative:

J.D. Lee presented the LEaP initiative and demonstrated how this concept can help students from high school to university to worlds of engineering. D.G. Wilder suggested using the center for writing, which gives a chance for the students to express themselves in writing, as one path to implement the LEaP concept.

e. Update on Research Track Faculty:

S. Rahman summarized the handout of January 23, 2008. R.L. Stephens showed some concern about the effect that implementing this policy would have on students' learning. S. Rahman stated that a decision about whether or not to adopt the policy will be finalized in the fall of this year.

f. Demonstration of Classroom Feedback Electronics.

6. Announcements:

There were no announcements.

7. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Salam Rahmatalla
College of Engineering Faculty Secretary