

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Faculty Meeting Minutes

October 6, 2009

1. The meeting was called to order by Dean P.B. Butler at 3:30 p.m. in 2217 Seamans Center. In attendance were: Dean P.B. Butler, J. Arora, N. Basu, C. Beckermann, J. Buchholz, K.B. Chandran, L.D. Chen, K.K. Choi, G. Christenesen, J. Fiegel, M. Garvin, N. Grosland, C.A. Guymon, K. Hornbuckle, J. Jessop, P. Krokmal, J. Kuhl, A. Kusiak, H. Lee, C.L. Lin, D. Murhammer, E. Nuxoll, P. O'Grady, A. Ratner, H. Raza, T. Schnell, A. Scranton, M. Sonka, C. Stanier, R. Stephens, H.S. Udaykumar.

2. Approval of Minutes:

A motion to approve the minutes of the May 15, 2009, meeting was approved, without amendment, by voice vote.

3. Introduction of New Faculty Members:

New Faculty members Hassan Raza and Raghuraman Mudumbai in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and Nandita Basu in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering were introduced.

4. Additions to Voting Faculty Membership

Ralph Stephens mentioned that he had a secondary appointment in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and the information should be included in the voting Faculty list. Thomas Schnell mentioned that he had a secondary appointment in the Department of Neurology. A motion to approve the Voting Faculty Membership list was approved by voice vote.

5. Old Business

- a. Motion on changing the math prerequisite for 059:009 (Thermodynamics)

The Curriculum Committee moves that the core course 059:009 (Thermodynamics), the math pre-requisite be changed from 22M:032 (Multi-variable Calculus) to 22M:031 (Single-variable Calculus).

Rationale for Motion: Concepts from 22M:032 are found in the Thermodynamics textbook only twice (i.e., heat capacity defined as a partial derivative and work defined as a vector); however, all examples in the course are one-dimensional. Thus, multivariable calculus is not needed at this time when the focus of the course is on engineering and understanding of the concepts.

Albert Ratner suggested that the course Multi-variable Calculus should be made a CoReq instead of a PreReq. There was some discussion after which this suggestion was accepted as a friendly amendment to the motion. The Faculty approved by voice vote to pass the amended motion.

b. Electronic ACE Forms:

Ralph Stephens brought up the issue of student responses having gone down tremendously since using electronic ace forms. It was mentioned that this was a faculty council task that considered the option of reverting back to paper forms, but rejected that option due to significantly greater associated tasks, but they would look into the issue further.

6. New Business

a. Committee Charges for 2009-10

C.A. Guymon asked the faculty for Committee Charges for 2009-10. The following suggestions were made:

- It was requested that dual projectors be provided in classrooms that can support it (e.g., 2217 and 3505)
- It was requested that the configuration of room 3210 not be changed that much.
- It was suggested that the Curriculum Committee include Sustainability in all programs. It was discovered through discussion that courses on Life cycle Assessment and Sustainability are offered by certain departments, but not sufficiently advertised across the campus. It was suggested that EFC could help by laying out available courses.
- It was suggested that there should be a standardized way to list ABET requirements.

b. State of the College Address (November 3 @ 12:30 PM in 2217SC)

Dean Butler invited everyone to attend the State of the College Address.

c. Faculty Budget Forums with Dean Butler

- Wednesday, October 14, 8:30 am – 9:20 am, 2217 SC
- Wednesday, November 11, 8:30am – 9:20 am, 2217 SC

Dean Butler encouraged everyone to attend at least one of the budget forums. He suggested that faculty should talk to Ryan Baumert if they have conflicts with these times and if a conflict exists, that he will meet with them one-on-one or in smaller groups.

d. Budget Discussions:

The issue of the stimulus money ending on July 1, 2010 was raised, and that starting July 1st the college would be in a deficit of \$800K – \$900K.

7. Announcements

The Dean announced that the College was receiving a significant scholarship gift (\$2.5 – \$3 million dollars) which will be available for Undergraduate Fellowships (\$150K – \$200K per year) starting Fall 2010.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 PM.

Sincerely,

Nandita Basu
College of Engineering Faculty Secretary