Chairs’ & Center Directors’ Meeting Minutes

Date: May 8, 2017  
Location: WCH – Room 443  
Attendees:  
- Reza Abbaschian  
- Guillermo Aguilar  
- Alex Balandin  
- Matt Barth  
- Mitch Boretz  
- Marek Chrobak  
- Ilya Dumer  
- Jay Farrell  
- Patrick Hartney  
- Xiaoping Hu  
- Ashok Mulchandani  
- Nosang Myung  
- Marko Princevac  
- Ravi  
- Tom Stahovich  
- Kambiz Vafai  
- Sharon Walker  
- Jun Wang  
- Charlie Wyman  

Absent:  
- Bir Bhanu  
- Walid Najjar  
- Vassilis Tsotras  
- Albert Wang

1. Welcome – Sharon  
No items were added to the agenda.

2. Approval of Minutes from April 12, 2017 Meeting - Pat  
The minutes of the April 24th meeting were unanimously approved.

3. Graduate Education – Ravi  
Ravi noted the comparison of MS and PhD SIRs to date by BCOE program attached to the agenda. The total number of BCOE applications declined this year but BCOE’s decline was similar to the rest of UCR. The total number of PhD acceptances is 123 vs 138 last year. The total number of MS acceptances is significantly lower this year. Xiaoping noted that the number of PhD acceptances in BIEN is low and could impact the success of incoming faculty. He will discuss this issue with Victor Rodgers, BIEN’s Grad Advisor.
Ravi then noted the two graphs attached to the agenda. The first graph summarizes the number of grad student applications submitted to each BCOE program from 2010 to 2016. He noted that CS applications have been steadily increasing each year. The 2nd graph is an expanded view of this same information but excluding CS and EE. He noted that this data does not include the number of applications started. About 70% of applications started in BCOE are completed by the candidates. Lastly, he noted that MS students can still apply for next year. Ravi added that the campus is sending out WASC evaluation notifications to departments. WASC is less stringent than ABET and is targeted at the grad student level.

4. Undergraduate Education – Marko
Marko noted that the undergrad acceptance deadline was May 1st. He sent out the latest figures to Chairs last week. So far, the number of BCOE acceptances are on-target. He is seeking input whether programs should accept more freshmen from waitlists or accept more transfer students. UCR would like to have a ratio of 2:1 freshmen to incoming transfer students. He will discuss this topic with each program Chair. Enrollment data can be found on UCR’s Institutional Research website (http://ir.ucr.edu/stats.html).
Also, as a result of the incorrect freshmen admissions sent out by UCR earlier this year, there are three admission petitions in BCOE. Marko is inclined to deny all of these petitions since the candidates are well below BCOE’s acceptance standards. Lastly, Marko sent out a request for Faculty Teaching Award nominations last week. In response to a question, Marko stated that nominees can be new faculty but the award is really designed to recognize continued excellence in teaching.

5. Senate Updates – Tom
Tom stated that there will be a BCOE faculty-only meeting on June 2nd from 3-4pm. Afterwards, there will be a 4-5pm End-of-Year Celebration for BCOE faculty and staff.

6. Dean’s Updates – Sharon
Sharon called attention to the External Relations Team handout attached to the agenda. A half-day retreat is scheduled for May 10th for Chairs and Directors to meet with the Team to help identify goals, tasks and activities to support BCOE departments and centers. Please send any feedback to Angela. Our first new faculty acceptance this year has occurred in CSE. Other acceptances are expected soon. Sharon asked Chairs to keep track of space needs for each candidate so we can optimize space allocations.

7. Department Updates
MSOL: Kambiz reported that Pearson reps will be visiting BCOE on June 8-9. He invited Chairs to meet with these reps. Xiaoping accepted this invitation.

ME: Guillermo stated that the department’s PDEF candidate has verbally accepted the department’s offer.

BIEN: Xiaoping indicated that a Presidential Post-doc offer went out and that three offers for regular department faculty are going out soon. Also, the department could have 1-2 Cluster hires this year. Lastly, BIEN held a successful Board of Advisors meeting last week.
CE-CERT: Matt noted that the Leon Billings conference and Board of Advisors meetings are scheduled next week. The Board meeting also includes an Open House.

CEE: Nosang stated that offers for two PDEF candidates are going out. There may be a department hire in the Atmospheric Chemistry Cluster. Also, interviews for the senior hire are being completed this week. Additionally, an MOU was recently signed with a Korean institution to establish a new center. A lunch workshop is planned for May 25th to discuss research ideas for the center. Nosang invited Chairs/Directors to attend this lunch workshop.

WCGEC: Reza stated that work on the WCGEC battery labs is almost finished. About 12 faculty are using these labs. An expansion of SIGI is being planned and that new programs in battery certification and power systems are coming.

CSE: Marek announced that the department’s Advisory Board meeting is today. One new faculty offer has been accepted and an additional offer has been verbally accepted so the department will be adding two new faculty next year.

POEM/SHINES: Alex stated that the group is preparing for a meeting in July in Washington D.C. to discuss grant renewal efforts.

ECE: Jay stated that the department has received one verbal acceptance from a faculty candidate and will also add a research faculty spousal hire. The department’s recent Board of Advisors meeting went well.

8. New Items
Next Generation ERCs: Mitch reported that the next ERC solicitation should be sent out next month. The call will be looking for efforts addressing grand challenges and needs instead of asking for an engineered systems vision, as in the past. Details will need to be included on how these challenges/needs will be addressed. There will likely be fewer (but larger) awards from this call. Efforts should include STEM educators and details on indicators of success. Proposals will still need to include corporate participants. There may be 2-3 responses to this call from BCOE.

Proposal Cost Share: Mitch reported that we need to develop a standard practice of providing cost share for BCOE proposals. He recommended the following:
- Increasing PI faculty time cost share from 5% to 10%
- As available, include Grad Division fellowship funding for grad students as cost share
- Include RED cost share (at 40% of remaining cost share requirement). This level of contribution has been verified by the VC/RED.
- Prorate remaining 60% of cost share by same percentage of IDC returned to Dean’s Office, Department and PI (5:2:1)

Nosang responded that this might provide a negative incentive for large proposal efforts that require significant amounts of cost share. Mitch responded that the cost share amounts needed from Departments and PIs are expected to be minimal and will never be greater than the amount
of IDC returned from the grant. Mitch will send Chairs/Directors examples of the above cost share splits.

NREL Director: Charlie announced that Martin Keller, the current Director of the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), will be presenting a seminar on May 17th from 3-4pm in WCH 205/206 and invited Chairs/Directors to attend. An announcement will be sent out soon.
Chairs’ & Center Directors’ Meeting
May 8, 2017

Agenda

Winston Chung Hall – Room 443

1. Welcome                       Sharon
2. Approval of Minutes from April 24, 2017 Meeting    Pat
3. Graduate Education            Ravi
4. Undergraduate Education       Marko
5. Senate Updates                Tom
6. Dean’s Updates
   • External Relations Retreat  Sharon
7. Department Updates            Chairs/Directors
8. New Items
   • Next Generation of ERCs     Mitch

NOTE: Next meeting date is Monday, May 22, 2017

Future Meeting Dates - 2017
May 22 (M)
June 5 (M), 16 (F)
### All submitted applications

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<td>Chemical and Environmental Engineering</td>
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<td>Materials Science &amp; Engineering</td>
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<td>Mechanical Engineering</td>
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### Acceptances

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<th>( F'17 )</th>
<th>PhD Only</th>
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Submitted Applications History II
External relations half-day retreat: Wednesday, May 10, 2017

To help drive discussion at the retreat, we have included below a series of questions for you. Your responses will assist in providing a framework for the newly formed team by identifying achievable goals, tasks and activities that will ultimately best support the departments/centers and, thus, the college. Please send your responses no later than Tuesday, May 9 at 3 p.m. to Angela Meluski at ameluski@engr.ucr.edu. Thank you for your input.
In your opinion:

1. What is the most significant challenge currently facing BCOE regarding external communications?

2. What is the biggest opportunity relating to external communications that is currently being left untapped?

3. From your perspective, how would you measure the success of the external relations team? (increase in rankings? enrollment? funding?)

4. What is your department/center currently doing in the realm of external relations? (newsletters, events, individual outreach, etc.)

5. On a scale of 1 to 5, how important do you feel it is to have department/center involvement in the cultivating and securing of new partners, donors, and supporters? (1 being not important and 5 being extremely important)

6. On a scale of 1 to 5, how willing are you and/or your department/center to participate in interactions with potential partners, donors or supporters of the college? (1 being little to no interaction or participation and 5 being actively engaged)

7. In what communication medium and how often would you prefer the external relations team keeps you updated on efforts and opportunities? (quarterly email newsletter, biannual presentation at chairs and directors meetings, etc.)

8. Where do we need to improve our Corporate Engagement Profile? (undergraduate and/or graduate career pipeline, sponsored research, philanthropic/gift giving, etc.)

9. Are you satisfied with the sponsored research process for closing a deal? If not, please describe specific challenges you have experienced and would like to see changed.

10. What are your top three priorities for new gifts (equipment, scholarships, research support, new programs, endowed chairs, facilities, other)?