MINUTES
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Bourns College of Engineering
Special Meeting
June 12, 2007 10:30 A.M.
A171 Bourns Hall

Attending:  Teodor Przymusinski, Chair
            Yingbo Hua
            Stefano Lonardi
            Ertem Tuncel

            Dean Reza Abbaschian, ex officio
            Associate Dean Mark Matsumoto, ex officio
            Associate Dean Chinya Ravishankar, ex officio

            Rod Smith

Guests:  Thomas Cogswell, Chair, Academic Senate
          Ward Beyermann, Vice Chair, Academic Senate
          Bahman Anvari, Bioengineering Department

Absent:  David Cocker
          Thomas Stahovich
          Charles Wyman
          Christopher Salam
          Rod Smith

Representation on the College on Academic Senate Committees
BCOE makes up approximately 12% of the faculty on the campus. The number will change to
13% to include this year’s new faculty hires. 5.8% of representation on Academic Senate
committees is from BCOE. BCOE is extremely underrepresented on Academic Senate
committees. The current Bylaws are discriminatory toward BCOE as they bundle Engineering
representation with Professional Schools and Colleges.
Ward and Tom responded that the number of BCOE faculty on Academic Senate Committees
has risen to 10-15 members, and now have a member on CAP. It was mentioned that
Academic Senate would prefer the number of BCOE faculty members to increase in Academic
Senate committees, but they are not receiving any interest from the faculty. The Executive
Committee responded that BCOE faculty members that have shown an interest in serving on
Academic Senate committees receive no response from the Senate. Tom and Ward explained
it is most likely because those that applied are to new to campus and lack experience. The
Academic Senate also feels that appointing Assistant Profs. would overburden them which also
causes a problem.
Executive Committee members also mentioned that many of the faculty that have served on
Academic Senate committees have felt that they were not able to contribute anything to the
meetings. The Executive Committee expressed concern that all members on Academic Senate
committees should be treated equally.
The Executive Committee suggested the best way to try to recruit BCOE faculty to serve on
Academic Senate committees is to contact the BCOE faculty directly seeking interest in
serving. Tom and Ward responded that usually when you try to convince people to serve on
Committees, they do not participate in meetings.
Finally, the Executive Committee suggested that the Bylaws are not specific regarding
membership on Academic Senate committees. It was suggested that language be placed in the
Bylaws that new members, and balance and adversity be considered, and that there should be
no more than one member from a department serving on a single academic Senate Committee.
Tom and Ward stated Bylaws are not written specifically to allow for balance. If you restrain
too much, the committees will be set up for bad situations.
Tom Cogswell concluded the discussion by stating that BCOE is growing so quickly that
people have not realized how vigorous and dedicated the college is. He expressed the
importance that BCOE continue to remind the University their growth and importance as a
voice on the campus.
General Education and Conversion Factor Policies
Tom Cogswell informed the Executive Committee that the General Education reform is being handled as a joint project with Academic Senate and Office of Undergraduate Affairs. The Conversion Factor is being handled by a separate committee. The Executive Committee, on behalf of the College, expressed concern with both topics, and would like a list of members serving on these committees. Tom mentioned that these committees will present drafted reports by the Fall.

Course Proposal Procedures and Timelines
The Executive Committee expressed their concerns on behalf of the College with the current system used for the review and approval for new courses. The early deadline dates do not give faculty much time. The Academic Senate shared BCOE’s concerns with the Committee on Courses and the Registrar’s office. The Chair of the Committee on Courses expressed that it is not possible to change the current procedures by the Academic Senate will look into the bureaucratic procedures and see if it is reasonable to make some revisions.