College of Engineering Executive Committee

MINUTES

January 19, 2010, 10:30am

Bourns Hall, A171

Attending: Jay Farrell, Chair
Gianfranco Ciardo
Ashok Mulchandani
Albert Wang
Christian Shelton
Cengiz Ozkan

Dean Reza Abbaschian, *ex officio*
Associate Dean Mark Matumoto, *ex officio*
Associate Dean Chinya Ravishankar, *ex officio*

Also Attending: Roderick Smith
Sonia De La Torre

Absent: Bahman Anvari
Robert Bonderer

1. **Call to Order**

2. **Approvals**

   The minutes for the November 30, 2009 meeting were unanimously approved.

3. **Announcements**

   a. **Dean**

      Reza Abbaschian
      There are no major changes to discuss
      The college is moving forward with faculty searches

   b. **Associate Deans**

      Mark Matsumoto
      Graduate applications are steady. There are a great number of domestic applications (100+ increase)

      Chinya Ravishankar

No announcements

c. Chair

Jay Farrell
No announcements

4. New/Continued Business

a. CEP Review (Jay Farrell)

Ravishankar sent a copy of criteria for ABET to CEP Review contact Jose Wudka. Ravishankar has not yet heard back from him so Ravishankar has agreed to follow up on this matter and then report back to the Executive Committee at a future meeting.

There is a concern that COE needs to keep CEP informed of what the goal is—that is, trying to align the two review processes and not have one (ABET review) replace the other (CEP review). The request was made to ensure that the details of the request are clearly explained to the CEP contact, Jose Wudka.

b. Bylaw Changes (Jay Farrell)

Shelton and Farrell need a meeting with Dan Ozer (parliamentarian for campus) to discuss the process for making changes to BCoE bylaws. Once a meeting date is chosen, Shelton and Farrell will provide an update at a future Executive Committee meeting.

c. Waitlist and Drop Deadlines (Jay Farrell)

There is no update on this request at this time. Ravishankar sent an email to Vice Chancellor, LaRae Lundgren about this concern. According to Ravishankar she thought the request was reasonable. Ravishankar will contact Lundgren once again about this issue and provide an update at a future Executive Committee meeting.

d. Writing Across the Curriculum (Chinya Ravishankar)

The campus requires completion of ENGL 1A, B, C for graduation. The campus has a proposal to change the English composition requirement to 2 quarters (instead of 3 quarters) and leave the third quarter course choice at the discretion of the college. In addition, under this proposal the campus would like the college to pay for the teaching of ENGL 1C instead of the Writing Center Program paying to teach it as the course will no longer be a campus requirement (rather a college requirement). There is resistance and concern in the Bourns College of Engineering to take on this responsibility given the seeming lack of funds to support the teaching of ENGL 1C.

Simultaneously, BCoE is considering getting ENGR 180 (technical communication) approved to fulfill the third quarter of English composition as part of the Writing Across the Curriculum proposal. If ENGR 180 get approved as an appropriate equivalent to ENGL 1C, then ENGL 1C could be eliminated as a requirement from all engineering programs. This elimination will allow the engineering programs to instead add ENGR 180 as a requirement for graduation.

There was extensive discussion among the committee as to whether or not the college should move forward and submit ENGR 180 as an acceptable alternative to ENGL 1C. Some of the members expressed concerns that if ENGR 180 is approved as an appropriate alternative to ENGL 1C then engineering students will not be allowed to enroll in ENGL 1C and be forced to only take ENGR 180.

There was a motion to submit ENGR 180 as an alternative to ENGL 1C. The committee agreed to have ENGR 180 submitted as an alternative to ENGL 1C. Ravishankar was appointed to speak with the instructors of ENGR 180 to identify how Appendix A requirements are being met and then submit the proposal in time for the January 27th deadline to John Briggs at the Writing Center.

e. Photo Rosters (Jay Farrell)

Shelton brought up this issue a year ago. At senate committee meeting this issue came up as well and got referred to the next level past the senate. There is a positive interest in this. More updates to come on the development of this process at future Executive Committee meetings.

f. General Education Requirements (Jay Farrell)

The campus is doing working on piloting the alternative breadth program concentrations that were developed. An email was sent out to faculty to encourage students to consider these breadth programs. BCOE is working on coming up with a breadth program for engineering students. Matsumoto is waiting for information on an economics course to finish the engineering breadth program and submit it for approval. By the next Executive Committee meeting the program approval for the alternative breadth pattern for engineering students should be approved. A faculty member noted that this alternative breadth program will be on a trial basis for 5 years to 75 students.

A related issue was brought up concerning outdated general education requirements. The recommendation was made to revisit the general education requirements and propose an updated breadth pattern. Revisiting the breadth courses will allow the executive committee to consider a broader list of options. One of the concerns with

the current breadth list is the ethnicity requirement. There was some discussion as to whether or not it is a campus or college requirement and whether the college has the ability to change this requirement. In regards to the ethnicity requirement, the recommendation was made that the issue be taken to the undergraduate advisor committee at each department to identify what courses each department would like to consider including to fulfill the ethnicity requirement in a way that meets the globalization issues that engineering as a profession is facing. Ravishankar will follow up on this issue and have an update for a future Executive Committee meeting

Questions were also raised as to the basis for the number of humanities, social science, etc. courses that students take to fulfill breadth requirements in engineering. Ravishankar mentioned that Executive Committee should consider what ABET would like engineering students to have for breadth to ensure that the new breadth proposal aligns with these requirements. The recommendation was also made to consider looking at programs such as UC Merced and UC San Diego for a model of engineering breadth requirements. UC Merced does not list a series of courses that students need to take; rather, there are areas of knowledge that they want to students to be competent in after graduation such as society and life.

g. Meeting dates/times (Jay Farrell)

Winter 2010
The Executive committee approved the winter 2010 meetings as follows:
February 9, 2010 from 10:30am-12:30pm
March 4, 2010 from 10:30am-12:30pm

Spring 2010
The committee agreed to meet on Fridays from 12:00-2:00pm
The dates include: April 2, 16, 30, and May 28

h. Course Changes

- Changes to the following course were unanimously approved by the Executive Committee and will be forwarded to the Committee on Courses for review:
  CS 169
  The course also approved as a technical elective.

- The following courses were deferred to the next Executive Committee meeting for vote:
  ENGR 181
  The request was made to have the syllabus revised for this course.

- The following courses were deferred by the Executive Committee. The committee has requested that additional justification be provided by the honors program as to how these courses are different from current independent study courses.
  HNPG 90
  HNPG 190

5. **Adjournment**
   The meeting was adjourned at 12:03pm