

## College of Engineering Executive Committee

## MINUTES

Bourns Hall, Room A171, 12:00pm

Attending: Jay Farrell

Reza Abbaschian

Bahman Anvari

Gianfranco Ciardo

Chinya Ravishankar

Cengiz Ozkan

Christian Shelton

Also Attending: Roderick Smith

Sonia De La Torre

Robert Bonderer

Absent: Mark Matsumoto

Ashok Mulchandani

Albert Wang

**1. Call to Order****2. Approval**

A. The minutes from March 4, 2010 meeting were unanimously approved.

**3. Announcements****A. Dean****Reza Abbaschian**

- i. Enrollments for college are up. The college is doing an outstanding job when it comes to recruitment. He also noted that there was a fifteen percent increase in comparison to last year.
- ii. The Engineering component of the Discover Day event was a great success. Abbaschian expressed his gratitude and thanks to all staff, faculty, and students that were involved in the planning and coordination of event. He also noted that students who attended the event mentioned that the student affairs operation was very professional and students felt much appreciated. Abbaschian wanted to highlight that the college appreciates the work of student affairs.

**B. Associate Deans****Chinya Ravishankar**

- i. Ravishankar wanted to echo the Dean's sentiments in regards to Discover Day. He stated that the college is lucky for having great staff working for it. Ravishankar wanted to note

that everyone was doing a fantastic job and when it comes down to it we always have our staff and faculty pull through.

**C. Chair**

**Jay Farrell**

- i. Added an agenda item to the meeting: College of Engineering response to Strategic Plan (section F under New/Continued Business)
- ii. No additional comments

**4. New/Continued Business**

**A. Bylaw Changes**

- i. Farrell drafted bylaw changes and sent them to the Academic Senate for an informal review from Rules and Jurisdiction to ensure that the language was appropriate to ensure approval. Farrell is waiting to receive feedback on wording of the bylaw revisions before the May Faculty Meeting.
- ii. There was discussion around revisions to Regulation EN 2.4 to update the list of majors in the College of Engineering. Under the current regulation the majors offered in engineering were outdated. There was some discussion about whether or not BS+MS degrees should be listed. The recommendation was made to revise the list of majors in engineering along with options only (no identification of B+MS degrees) as follows:
  - 1. Bioengineering, Business Informatics, Chemical Engineering, Computer Engineering, Computer Science, Electrical Engineering, Environmental Engineering, Materials Science and Engineering, Mechanical Engineering
- iii. Farrell will revise the regulation and forward to the Academic Senate for approval.

**B. Writing Across the Curriculum**

- i. Ravishankar was informed from the campus that the submission for ENGR 180W looks good. He is waiting to hear back from the Academic Senate as to whether or not the course has been approved. He also noted that ENGR 180W came back from Committee on Courses with a request for a minor change to the wording of the pre-requisite; the change was made and the course resubmitted.
- ii. Ravishankar sent the BCoE Breadth concentration proposal to Committee on General Education Advisory. There were some questions and recommended changes proposed. One of the recommendations was to change the title of the breadth concentration to something that was not as technical to encourage enrollment from non-engineering students in the program. This change was supported by Executive Committee. Additionally, there was some concern with the existing breadth requirements in BCoE and how different or similar the breadth concentration would be. Chinya Ravishankar pointed out how the breadth concentration is strong and as rigorous as the existing breadth requirements. Moreover, Ravishankar discussed that the introduction seminar will also change from 1 unit to 1-3 units to accommodate the varying unit value of each introduction course in engineering. There was also concern about whether the introduction course would be appropriate for non-engineering students. The Executive Committee recommended creating a non-engineering seminar for students who are interested in the breadth concentration. The general sentiment among Executive Committee members was that the BCOE departmental seminars may be too technical for non-engineering students. Ravishankar agreed to update the table in the breadth concentration to reflect the changes recommended and approved by the Executive Committee and then forward the updated proposal to Committee on General Education Advisory. Ravishankar will provide updates on this process at the next Executive Committee meeting.

C. CEP review

- i. Farrell stated that there were no current updates on the CEP review process.

D. Notice of Election

- i. Farrell announced that Valentine Vullev was nominated to serve on the Executive Committee for the next year as the Bioengineering representative. This will be voted on at the Faculty meeting in May.

E. Updates to course changes

- i. Farrell approved minor changes to EE 165 and MSE 302 to move courses along in the Committee on Courses approval process. There was no objection by the Executive Committee members to continue this process in the future.

F. Strategic Plan (added at the meeting)

- i. Farrell noted that it was requested by the Academic Senate that each college provide feedback on the proposed Strategic Plan. At the meeting, Farrell provided a tentative outline of the sections of the Strategic Plan that he thought BCoE should consider supporting and challenging. There was a lengthy discussion about several sections of the Strategic Plan. The Executive Committee proposed supporting several broad areas proposed in the Strategic Plan as follow:
  1. Becoming a research-one institution and Association for American Universities (AAU)
  2. Emphasis placed on the need to look to external funding resources to support growth of graduate enrollments.
  3. Increase in graduate enrollments of 20%.
  4. Encourage hiring of faculty and funding to in areas that bring excellence and prominence to UCR.
  5. Emphasize faculty participation and student sense of belonging as part of the UCR sense of community.
  6. Moving in a direction to reduce the teaching of remedial education. Remedial education can be provided and supported in the California Community College system.
  7. Demand that undergraduate students should be technically literate.
- ii. Areas of concern in the Strategic Plan that were noted by the BCoE Executive Committee are as follow:
  1. Plan was not clear and that detail was absent for how some of the initiatives of the plan would be implemented.
  2. Purpose of the Office of Research and its role. There some concern that there is not enough information about how the departments will be supported to become a pre-eminent research university. There was a strong objection to the Office of Research solely defining research centers.
  3. Plan to increase diversity of student body at the graduate level seems ambiguous. There seemed to be some concern of an implied message for undergraduates to be encouraged to stay at UCR for graduate education.

5. Adjournment 1:20pm