

**MINUTES**  
**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**  
**Bourns College of Engineering**  
**May 7, 2008, 12:30 P.M.**  
**A171 Bourns Hall**

**Attending:** Frank Vahid, Chair  
Bahman Anvari  
David Cocker  
Yingbo Hua  
Stefano Lonardi  
Tom Stahovich  
Deep Shah

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

Rod Smith

**Guests:** Mart Molle, Computer Science & Engineering

**Absent:** Ertem Tuncel  
Charles Wyman

**Approval of the Minutes**

The minutes for the meeting of the April 9, 2008 were approved by acclamation.

**Announcements**

**A. Dean**

**Reza Abbaschian**

-No news on the budget. The University has been told to prepare for 5-10% budget cut. It is hoped that something will be announced by the Governor in June. Other campuses have already begun to take action. UC Davis has implemented a 7% cut.

-A chancellor has been chosen. His name will be submitted to the Regents on May 14-15. The new chancellor will be on campus May 15.

-In regard to faculty recruitment, it is hoped that after all negotiations have been completed, we will have eight new faculty members. Two offers have already been accepted. One spousal hire will be brought out for interview soon.

**B. Associate Deans**

**Chinya Ravishankar**

- Undergraduate enrollment numbers are up this year. 521 students have accepted. This is a 43% increase from last year. The largest increase is in Computer Engineering. There was no increase in Information Systems. It is anticipated that the name change to "Business Informatics" will help to increase enrollment in this program. It is anticipated that these numbers will increase even more. The number of SIRS has doubled since 2005. Rod Smith and the entire Student Affairs staff have done a great job in the increase of student acceptance numbers.

-The AGSM Executive Committee has determined that they will have no involvement regarding curriculum changes for the Information Systems major.

-BS/MS programs have been approved by the Committee on Educational Policy and Graduate Council. CCGA sees no need for further review these programs. These are considered program changes and not new programs. Therefore, Graduate Council will have the final authority.

**Mark Matsumoto**

-The departments have active in graduate student recruitment. BCOE has surpassed CHASS in total applications. 146 students have said they will attend (CS-58, EE 46, CEE 24, BIEN 10, ME 8).

### **C. Chair**

#### **Frank Vahid**

-Thanks to Ravi, Rod, and the Student Affairs Office staff for all their hard work in increasing enrollment numbers.

-The nomination results for the 2007-2008 elections have been received. There is one valid nomination received for Gianfranco Ciardo (CS), and one valid nomination received for Christian Shelton (at large).

### **Continued Business**

#### **A. Math Education Task Force**

- The Campus level task force has met once. Tom Stahovich and China Ravishankar are both on the task force. The task force is primarily focusing on pre-calculus in regard to what is happening with Math, and what can be done to improve performance. The task force will probably meet for about a year.

At the College level, Math has agreed to set aside some sections for Engineering students only. There is a constraint on the number of sections Engineering would like to have but will continue to work toward receiving more sections anyways.

The task force members have been given a copy of a textbook that is geared toward Calculus for Engineers to review. The task force members have also meet with faculty in their departments to see what they expect out of this. Math will receive feedback from Engineering by the end of the month in order to prepare for the Fall quarter. It is suggested that Engineering give the Math department one year to see that the suggested changes are implemented.

#### **B. General Education Reform**

- At the last meeting, the Academic Senate Chair, Tom Cogswell mentioned that Engineering could submit some suggested concentrations to the General Education Advisory Committee for consideration to be included in a pilot. China Ravishankar put together a task force which members are Jerry Schultz, Tom Stahovich, Sharon Walker, and Christian Shelton. The task force had some discussion and created two different concentrations to submit to the General Education Advisory Committee. The first concentration is "Technological Foundations for Modern Citizenship." This concentration would be mainly geared toward CHASS students. This concentration would give students the tools to use and interact with Technology. The departments that would be involved such as Sociology, Economics, Public Policy, etc. are all on board with the proposed concentration and the proposed courses.

The second proposed concentration, "Global and Ethical Dimensions of Technological Innovation" is geared more to the interests of Engineering students. This concentration is intended to give students in technical majors social, ethical, and global understanding in order to better understand the process of technical innovation.

Some of the concerns were that many courses would need to be created for these concentrations. What if the pilot is not successful? It was mentioned that even if the pilot was not successful, these courses would still be beneficial.

Another concern was with the "Global and Ethical Dimensions of Technological Innovation" concentration. It was mentioned that it might be good for other colleges to receive some technological interaction, but the concern was that this concentration might keep engineers from exploring other options outside of the technological arena. It was suggested it might be better to encourage engineers to explore other options.

The two concentrations were voted on by the Executive Committee members separately. The first proposed concentration, "Technological Foundations for Modern Citizenship" was unanimously approved. The second concentration, "Global and Ethical Dimensions of Technological Innovation" was approved with 9 in favor, and 1 abstain. The Chair will forward the proposed concentrations to Tom Cogswell for review.

- The Executive Committee also showed concern with the fact that there were not any Engineering courses listed on the proposed concentration "Climate Change/Sustainability" that was submitted by CNAS. Tom Stahovich will prepare a new course from Engineering that will be suggested to include in this proposed concentration.

## **New Business**

### **A. Freshman Admission Filter Analysis**

- Mart Molle has conducted some analysis regarding freshman admits and retention rates. He has created a filter that could help to increase the retention rates of freshman admits. Mart used a data set of 3,054 freshman admits that have now left UCR. Of those students 889 graduated in BCOE (29.1% retention). 1588 students graduated outside of Engineering (52% retention).

The Filters suggest that students with an SAT1-Math score that less than 460 not be accepted. Another filter showed Applicants with an SAT1-Math score of higher than 460 should be rejected when the total of their score combined with the high school GPA is less than 805.

The results of the analysis show that by using math test scores only would result with the rejection of the bottom 5.6% of students with an effectiveness ratio of 9.1 to 1. This is easy to do and highly effective.

By using both the math test scores and high school GPA would result with the rejection of the bottom 8% of students with an effectiveness ratio of 8.1 to 1. The retention rate rises, but the effective ratio falls. It becomes much harder to find a larger group.

### **B. Bookstore Processes**

- All sorts of mistakes have been made in the ordering of textbooks through the bookstore. It seems that the bookstore is lagging in keeping faculty up to date on the orders. It was asked if anyone is experiencing issues with their orders. It was suggested that the bookstore send out the textbook and order status information much sooner in order to alleviate some of the issues and mistakes that faculty are experiencing with their orders.

### **C. EE BS/MS Program Proposal**

- This program proposal is much like the others that have been submitted with a combined BS/MS. The Executive Committee unanimously approved the proposal. The proposal will be forwarded to the Graduate Council for review.

**The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.**