

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 China 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 too 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.