Chairs' & Center Directors’ Meeting Minutes

Date: October 4, 2010 (12:00 to 2:00 pm)  
Location: EBU II – Room 443  
Attendees: Abbaschian, Reza  
Balandin, Alex  
Barth, Matt  
Bhanu, Bir  
Boretz, Mitch  
Davidson, Don  
Haddon, Robert  
Hartney, Pat  
Lake, Roger  
Matsumoto, Mark  
Najjar, Walid  
Parker, Linda  
Payne, Tom  
Ravi  
Rodgers, Victor (for Jerry Schultz)  
Stahovich, Tom  
Vahid, Frank (for Laxmi Bhuyan)  
Yan, Yushan  

Absent: Bhuyan, Laxmi  
Schultz, Jerry  
Xu, Daniel

The agenda for the meeting is shown in Appendix 1.

1. Welcome and call for agenda items - Reza  
The following items were added to the agenda: NSWC event on 10/6 (Linda) and PhDs.org (Tom Payne).

2. Approval of Minutes - Pat  
The revised minutes of the September 27th Chairs/Directors meeting were unanimously approved.
3. Strategic White Papers
Reza announced that the Chairs/Directors would be making short presentations to summarize the important points in their strategic white papers. Reza suggested that Chairs/Directors look for strategic partners during these presentations. The topics presented were:

CEE: “A Clean, Safe and Sustainable Energy System”

BIEN: “Healthcare Technology” (including a center for medical devices, center for high-throughput screening & drug design and a center for healthcare informatics);

ME: “Research Program in Air Pollution”

CS: “Cyber-Physical Systems”

CRIS: “Bio-imaging and Informatics”;
   “Homeland Security and Surveillance”

MS&E: “Development of the Computational Materials Research Program”

CNSE: “3D Electronics”

CE-CERT: “Alternative Fuels Research Center”;
   “National Atmospheric Chamber Facility”;
   “Biofuels”;
   “Intelligent Transportation Systems”;
   “SC-RISE”

Comments and suggestions made during the presentations included:
- a faculty hire in energy research is important; there are no BCOE faculty that work on solar cells
- white papers should describe why areas are intellectually important and include descriptions of required resources, faculty lines, infrastructure, etc.; papers should also describe why these BCOE topic areas are different from competing programs at other universities.
- Reza intends to request 15 new faculty lines from campus this year. All BCOE departments would benefit from these new lines. Reza encouraged departments to submit recruitment ads in appropriate journals as soon as possible. If the lines are not approved, the ads would have to be withdrawn.
- ME’s Research in Air Pollution topic should be expanded and include more participation from CE-CERT.
- An initiative for BIEN’s Healthcare Informatics is in process and will include UCR’s new Medical School; a meeting with the Dean of the Medical School is scheduled for next week.
- UCR’s new IGERT Program is unique in the country. This Program recently held a retreat at Arrowhead that included 25 faculty members and 18 PhD students.
- There are obvious synergies among the topics, particularly in informatics.
- CS’s topic of Cyber-Physical Systems was rated as the #1 research area in a recent national report. Also, NSF’s new Cyber-Physical Systems Program is funded at $30M this year.
- CS’s white paper should include a description of the synergy with UCR’s existing video networks research and should expand its vision to include the establishment of a Center for Cyber-Physical Systems.

Revisions of the strategic white papers should be sent to Mitch within two weeks. There is no prescribed format for these white papers in order to allow authors flexibility to present their plans. Reza suggested that authors keep their visions big and look towards a 10 year timeframe. The papers should also include estimates of extramural funds that could be generated by these research areas. UCR needs to significantly increase its extramural funding if it wants to have the profile of an AAU institution. The next step will be to send these revised white papers to BCOE faculty for comment. The final versions will be sent to the Chancellor and EVCP. BCOE’s requests for resources and new faculty hires may need to be prioritized after review by the Chancellor and EVCP.

4. Other Matters
Linda stated that the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Naval Systems Warfare Center (NSWC) is scheduled for this Wednesday (10/6) from 9am to noon at the NSWC facility in Corona/Norco. The event will include a tour of NSWC. Linda circulated a list of expected BCOE attendees and asked participants to make changes/additions. She stressed that only US Citizens can attend this event.

Due to time constraints, the other agenda items were postponed to the next Chairs/Directors meeting.
Chairs’ & Center Directors’ Meeting

October 4, 2010

Agenda

Engineering Building Unit II – Room 443

1. Welcome - Request for Agenda Items from the Floor  Reza
2. Approval of Minutes from September 27, 2010 Meeting Pat
3. Strategic White Papers  All
4. Space  Chairs
5. Undergraduate Education  Ravi
6. Graduate Education  Mark
7. Other Matters

Please note – cancel meeting scheduled for Friday, October 22, 2010

The next scheduled meeting will be

Monday – November 1, 2010

Please note: Meetings will be held in EBU II – Room 443