

# MINUTES

## COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING FACULTY ORGANIZATION (CEFO)

Thursday, January 21, 2011, 12:30 PM

CARC, Room 101

The following individuals signed the attendance sheet:

- COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING: M. Castle, J. Edgecombe, D. Furr, M. Hermann, W. Heybruck, R. Johnson, W. Meier, D. Rowe, T. Rufty, R. Smelser, J. Stein
- CIVIL ENGINEERING: J. Baker, J. Bowen, L. Brown, T. Brown, S. Chen, J. Daniels, T. Disabatino, J. Gergely, J. Graham, M. Kane, E. Morant, V. Ogunro, M. Pando, S. Pulugurtha, W. Saunders, E. Scott, K. Warren, M. Whelan, D. Young
- ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING: D. Binkley, N. Bousaba, V. Cecchi, J. Conrad, C. Hargrove, A. Kailas, S. Kalamasadan, A. Nasipuri, J. Xie
- ENGINEERING MANAGEMENT: C Lim, E. Ozelkan, Y. Sireli, S.G. Teng.
- ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY: A. Brizendine, N. Byars, C. Cho, D. Cottrell, M. DeCusati, C. Dontoh, B. Gehrig, M. Herman, D. Hoch, T. Jarrell, P. Kabengela, J. Kimble, A. Kitts, N Lu, S. McMillan, D. Murphy, M. Noras, R. Priebe, P. Schmidt, B. Sherlock, A. Sleiti, R. Swan, P. Tolley, S. Wang, M. Wilson
- MECHANICAL ENGINEERING AND ENGINEERING SCIENCE: T. Beauregard, R. Coger, A. El-Ghannam, G. Elliott, J. Hill, R. Keanini, T. Koch, K. Lawton, C.Y. Lee, J. Miller, E. Morse, P. Ramaprabhu, A. Soliman, W. Turner, Q. Wei, T. Xu, H. Zhang, N. Zheng.
- OSDS: D. Blackmon, C. Blat, J. Braganza, Y. McIlwaine, L. Thurman, M. Harkins, B. Schweitzer
- GUESTS:

Documented attendance: 94 total, 53 voting faculty.

Quorum of voting faculty: 56.

### 1. Welcome

CEFO president Ertunga Ozelkan called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

### 2. Approval of Minutes (Barry Sherlock)

A motion to approve the minutes of the December 2, 2010 CEFO meeting was seconded and passed. Past minutes are kept on the CEFO website at <http://www.coe.uncc.edu/faculty-and-staff/coe-faculty-organization.html>

### 3. Upcoming Elections (Martin Kane, CEFO President Elect)

Elections will be held this semester for certain College committees, and for COE representatives to University-level committees. Information about the available openings will be distributed to all faculty, who are encouraged to nominate themselves or others.

#### **4. Online Course Evaluations (Cathy Blat)**

The College will be part of a University pilot in Spring 2011 to investigate the use of online student evaluation of instructors.

Advantages of online evaluations include lower cost, better data, more student comments, universal accessibility to all students, less subject to bias, earlier faculty access to results. Response rate may initially be lower, however.

The proposed software tool for the online evaluations is Student Voice. This is currently used for SPART surveys. Student Voice can communicate with Banner. It automatically sends out reminders to students. Information can be found at <http://courseeval.studentvoice.com>.

#### **5. Global Engineering Programs (Jennifer Braganza)**

The College of Engineering has several options for students who want to study or work abroad. Global Perspectives in Engineering takes students to Munich over Spring break. Our partnership with the University of Kentucky allows students to take MATH 2241 and an LBST in Karlsruhe over 6 weeks in Summer. Students can take environmental engineering courses at ENSIL in Limoges (not offered in 2011). Technical facility visits, guest speakers, and cultural activities are provided in Charlotte, Karlsruhe and Munich.

There is no foreign language requirement. Courses are taught by American faculty. Students cover the expenses of the program. The cost is \$1200 for the Spring break, and \$2900 for the Summer, excluding flights.

#### **6. COE Constitution Revision (Peter Schmidt)**

Peter Schmidt announced that of the 110 ballots distributed, 57 ballots were returned (55 yes, 1 no, 1 unmarked). It looks as if the measure will pass, but higher voter participation will be necessary if the necessary two-thirds vote is to be obtained. Therefore, the election will be re-conducted, with a distributed control strategy whereby one volunteer from each Department beats on doors and collects the votes in an unmarked envelope. The goal is to get this completed in the next two weeks.

#### **7. Faculty/Staff Recognitions (Dean Johnson)**

##### ***Staff:***

Dean Johnson recognized the following staff members having 10 or more years of service: John Brien, Ted Brown, Rodney Dyer, Jason Edgecombe, Donna Furr, Mike Hermann, Chrystal Lilly-Gibbs, Yolanda McIlwaine, Wendy Meier, Jimmie Miller, Mike Moss, Lebra Nance, Terry Rhodes, Dan Rowe, Toby Rufty, Billie Jo Schweitzer, Elizabeth Scott, Jane Stewart, Linda Thurman, Dave Whisler, Madelyn Wilson, Greg Caskey.

##### ***Faculty Achievements:***

The Dean recognized the following faculty for the achievements listed:

- Matt Davies: Finalist for the Bank of America Teaching Award; Fellow of the International Academy of Production Engineering (CIRP)
- Janos Gergely: Finalist for the Bank of America Teaching Award.
- Robin Coger: Fellow of ASME; Fellow of the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering.
- Ian Ferguson: Fellow of IEEE; Fellow of SPIE.
- Eric Johnson: Fellow of the Optical Society of America.
- Harish Cherukuri: winner of a Fullbright Award.
- Yogi Kakad: winner of the IEEE Region 3 Outstanding Educator Award.

- Scott Smith: the Outstanding Alumnus at the University of Florida Gainesville.
- Peter Schmidt: winner of the Ability One Award, in connection with the National Institute for the Severely Handicapped.
- James Amburgey: recognized as one of the Aquatics International Power 25 of 2010.
- Ahmad Sleiti: recognized at the Smithsonian as a Legend in Energy by the Association of Energy Engineers.
- Jay Raja: received the ASME Patrick J. Higgins Medal.
- Gary Teng: received a Merrill Baker Award from the Engineering Management Division of ASME.
- Robin Coger: received a Harashimi de Silva Graduate Award from UNC-Charlotte's Graduate School.
- Kevin Lawton: winner of the College of Engineering Excellence in Teaching Award (Undergraduate)
- Srinivas Pulugurtha: winner of the College of Engineering Excellence in Teaching Award (Graduate).
- Martin Kane, Yogi Kakad, Jeff Kimble, Russ Keanini: Nominees for the College of Engineering Excellence in Teaching Award.

***Reappointments:***

The following faculty were reappointed at the rank of Assistant Professor: Ryan Adams (ECE), Maciej Noras (ET), Praveen Ramaprabhu (MEES), Peter Schmidt (ET), Nilabh Srivastava (MEES), Peter Tkacik (MEES), Aixi Zhou (ET).

***Tenure:***

The following faculty were promoted to the rank of Associate Professor with tenure: Gloria Elliott (MEES), Brigid Mullany (MEES), Ertunga Ozelkan (SEEM), Qiuming Wei (MEES), Linda Xie (ECE), Terry Xu (MEES).

***Promotion:***

David Binkley (ECE) was promoted to the rank of Professor.

**8. College of Engineering update (Dean Robert Johnson)**

***Lunch:***

Dean Johnson thanked Chrystal Lilly for arranging the food for today's meeting of CEFO.

***Budget:***

- Originally the Governor announced a \$3.9 billion shortfall in the \$19.1 billion State budget, but more recent results suggest an actual shortfall of \$2.9 to \$3.1 billion.
- The Governor announced a hiring freeze – but we can designate certain teaching positions as mission critical (with approval from the Chancellor).
- Originally, the Governor announced a 10% budget cut, but now they say it will be somewhere between 10% and 15%. The Chancellor has held back about 250 positions, enough to cover a 10% cut. Next year might be very difficult if the cuts go deeper than 10%.
- We need to fill the positions we have available as soon as we can, but of course with the best possible people. The Dean asked those on search committees to help speed the process along.
- If there is still State money in Departments, it should be spent soon. Very little State money will be available for travel.

***Gifts to EPIC:***

On Saturday January 22, a luncheon will be held in uptown Charlotte, at which Steve Patterson is being recognized with an Energy Leadership Award. At the luncheon, EPIC will be presented with a gift of \$4.5 million from Duke Energy, and a gift of \$4.3 million from Siemens Energy. Dean Johnson thanked Ben Mohler for his hard work in making these awards possible. He also thanked

Steve Patterson, the Department Chairs, Patty Tolley, Ron Smelser, Robert Cox, Bob Wilhelm, Beverly Guessford and Chrystal Lilly for their involvement.

***Graduate Student Recruiting:***

Dean Johnson went on a trip to the National University in Colombia, recruiting graduate students. He reported that potential students are nervous about coming to the USA (particularly regarding their English language skills), and that it is personal contact with faculty members that leads them to make the decision to come. The Colombian equivalent of the NSF supports students for their first two years. Dean Johnson will be recruiting faculty to help with contacting individual students by email.

**9. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:31 p.m.