

ENGINEERING FACULTY COUNCIL

**Meeting Minutes- October 21, 2014
202 Hammond**

Ronald Land, Terry Speicher, Howard Salis, Chris Giebink, Siyang Zheng, Sven Schmitz, Aly Salid, Runkun (Justin) Jiang, Wang-Chien Lee, Catherine Harmonosky, Anthony Atchley, Blaine Prichard (in for Rachel Fore)

1. Approval of minutes for the meeting of September 16, 2014

Minutes posted on ANGEL. Approved unanimously.

2. Updates from Undergraduate Studies Committee (Chris Giebink)

In general these are minor changes. EFC member comments on the fact that experimental courses should be taught for maximal three times. There is no minimal requirement. All courses are approved unanimously.

3. Updates from Graduate Studies Committees (Wang-Chien Lee)

10 course change proposals: 8 voted for approval including 2 requiring feedback, 2 returned. GS&R report is approved unanimously.

The approval procedure needs to be clarified in the EFC Bylaws, which will be discussed in future EFC meeting.

Program change proposals:

IE MS non-thesis: returned to clarify the difference between the 1 year non-thesis MS program and the current MEng program. In general, the current recommendation leaves the distinction of MS thesis, MS non-thesis, and MEng program to each individual department.

4. Updates from Engineering Technology Committee (Ron Land/Terry Speicher)

No Changes, nothing to report.

5. Updates from Faculty Senate (Peter Butler)

Dr. Butler will update next time.

6. Dean's Report – Catherine Harmonosky

1) Updates on building: There was a meeting last week with department heads. New engineering building was proposed to be built at the current parking lot for student co-laboratory, i.e. labs for students from different departments. \$40M request from the State will be submitted in addition to funding from University

and COE (\$3M in donations). ChE/BME building is moving forward. The current ChE building will be demolished. The total budget is \$150M.

- 2) *ABET: There were no deficiencies, 11 weaknesses, 20 concerns. Corrections of the weaknesses and concerns need to be made before the final vote in July. The draft report will be due in December. Final report will be in August and we will be accredited for 6 years. There is a new general engineering program offered at three commonwealth campuses: DuBois (applied materials), Philadelphia area (multidisciplinary engineering design), Hazleton (alternative energy and power generation). The first review for this program has just two concerns.*
- 3) *Dean Elnashai asks EFC to discuss the structure of the pre- and post- awards. Recommendations are needed. We have a new associated Dean for research and innovation, Dr. Theresa Mayer. Pre-awards may include proposal development, submission, and administration. Post-awards may include both financial and non-financial aspects. The pressure points, blocks and clogs need to be identified. The EFC will send an email to its members, and comments will be gathered for the next EFC meeting.*
- 4) *One year MS degree is important for the immediate future of the college. The EFC is expected to work efficiently on related issues. Do we need to define a MS thesis (MS thesis), MS scholarly paper (MS non-thesis), and experience (MEng)? One factor can be considered is the educational outcomes. It might be better to leave this to each department. Currently the distinctions are left to each individual department. EFC may provide some guidelines. Maybe we can check other institute for the similar situations (e.g. UIUC IE program established by Elnashai).*

7. Other Business

Nothing to report.

8. Update on EFC Website

New template for EFC website is available. Please forward comments, subcommittee members to Sven.