

# Engineering Faculty Council

## Meeting Minutes

**August 23, 2016**

**11:00 a.m.**

**101F Hammond Building (large conference room in Dean's Suite)**

Present: Butler, Derby, Elnashai, Giebink, Gray, Gomez, Masters, Palacios, Said, Tan, Vallejera, Wolfe, Zhang

1. Approval of minutes for the meeting of April 5, 2016

Unanimously approved.

2. Dean's Report (Amr Elnashai)

- Faculty hiring: 21 faculty hired, 19 came and 2 will come.
- There are a number of new appointments at the administration side. Asked Provost for recourse to expand the advising office and career service office. Got significant partial funding (64%) for five positions.
- Multi-campus REU program: 34 students from 6 campuses last year, increased to 51 students from 10 campuses this year. Added Penn State-Texas A&M REU program.
- Salary increase program: There will be a salary increase program. Working with department heads now. The average salary increase will be 2%; Will be retroacted to July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Survey: Engaged survey involved faculty, students and staff completed in Feb. The engaging percentage was the highest in the staff, and the faculty's percentage is higher than students. The report has been assembled. Significant decisions will be made based on the survey. The survey is expected to be repeated every three years.

3. Updates from Undergraduate Studies Committee (Chris Giebink) – no items to report.

4. Updates from Graduate Studies Committees (Esther Gomez).

Graduate Faculty Nominations (8) reviewed and (7) approved:

Category R

- Rhett Jefferies, PhD – ME – APPROVED
- Abdaalla Ramadan Nassar, PhD – ESMCH – APPROVED
- Scott Lewis, PhD – Mechanical Engineering - APPROVED
- Sean Knecht, PhD – EDSGN – APPROVED
- Teresa (Dena) Lang, PhD – EDSGN – APPROVED
- Sarah Ritter, PhD – EDSGN – APPROVED
- Charles Cox, PhD – EDSGN – in review
- Xinli Qu, PhD – EDSGN – APPROVED

Graduate Certificate Proposals (1) Reviewed and (1) Approved:

- Engineering Leadership and Innovation Management – APPROVED
  - Unanimously approved.

Course Proposals (4) Reviewed and (4) Approved:

- ESC 520\_Change - APPROVED
- ESC 521\_Change - APPROVED
- ESC 522\_Change - APPROVED
- ESC 523\_Change – APPROVED

5. Updates from Engineering Technology Committee (Engr Tech Chair)

None.

6. Updates from Faculty Senate (Engineering Senator)

Next Senate meeting is on Sept 6; next Senate Council meeting is August 23.

Four items to discuss:

- Changes in health care in 2017- co-pay will go up (75%/25% paid by employer and employee, respectively; The currently rate is 80%/20%).
- Starfish (the new advising software) will be rolled out.
- Private consulting (HR80) requires prior approval.
- Proposal by UPUA, the university park becomes smoke free.

7. Other Business