

Engineering Faculty Council

Meeting Minutes

January 16th, 2018

11:00 a.m.

202 Hammond Building (Stavelly conference room)

Present:

1. Approval of minutes for the meeting of December 12, 2017
Unanimously approved.
2. Dean's Report:
 - A. New approaches to measuring & improving faculty teaching were described that rely less on student evaluation forms. Approaches to improve SRTEs were discussed, particularly to increase student response rates and capture additional information.
 - B. The Drawdown-associated institute was introduced, explaining the upcoming competition to lead or participate in the new institute. "Drawdown" is a recently published & high profile non-fiction book detailing 100 solutions to reducing global CO2 levels that takes advantage of capitalism's current infrastructure ("Natural Capitalism"). The well-funded authors of this book are sponsoring the creation of an institute to sponsor research activities on these topics.
 - C. Updates to the College of Engineer's Master Plan for capitol infrastructure in the next five years were provided, including a list of new buildings and renovations. The proposal will replace Hammond, Sackett, and the Research Unit buildings. The Master Plan is being developed in concert with plans to develop a beatified space for Engineering students and to expand the Alumni Center towards College Ave.
 - D. Francis Cordova (director of NSF) will be the commencement speaker for graduation.

3. Undergraduate Studies Committee
No updates

4. Graduate Program Committee

Proposed addition of a new graduate course (ESC 518: Bioprinting) has been approved. The GS&R committee discussed the educational objectives and provided some suggestions to improve the course description.

5. Updates from the Faculty Senate

Provost Nick Jones discussed the Strategic Initiative funding program. There were changes to Senate voting procedures to elect new senators. There were policy changes to make undergraduate majors compliant with federal funding rules. There is a need to

increase undergraduate representation on the Faculty Senate. There was a change in policy to address attendance concerns with respect to the National Guard and Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Reserve services. There was a change in the email policy to make it more uniform.