

Engineering Faculty Council

Meeting Minutes

March 20th, 2018

11:00 a.m.

202 Hammond Building (Stavelly conference room)

Present:

1. Approval of minutes for the meeting of February 20th, 2018
Unanimously approved.
2. Updates from the Faculty Senate
 1. An overall description of the operating budget description, categories, appropriations, and pursuits for funding was provided for the next fiscal year.
 2. Revisions to the Senate constitution were proposed to strengthen faculty voice.
 3. The number of student senators was increased from 2 to 3.
 4. There was a discussion on recreational facilities and user fees. It was proposed that future changes are made available to faculty through their benefits program.
 5. There was a discussion on defining Global Citizenship and Competency regarding Penn State's programs.
 6. Changes were made to RPO6, which covers disclosures of financial interests.
 7. Approval was given to dissolve the outdated planning board.
 8. The recent Senate election results were announced, including the Chair.
 9. There was a discussion of P&T differences between UP and branch campuses at the full Professor rank.
 10. There was a discussion of the increasing child care costs in Faculty families.
 11. There was a discussion of inappropriate time keeping of employed persons by faculty when using WorkLion.
 12. Updates to the user interface in WorkLion were made to improve user accessibility.
 13. Updates to AC21 Standardization of Titles were made. Most units have implemented these changes.
 14. There was a review of alcohol abuse across the campus and community.
3. Graduate Council – NEEDS TO BE ADDED TO AGENDA
 1. There is a Graduate Research Exhibition on March 25th 2018
 2. The deadline for Visa applications for Optional Practical Training (OPT) is April 1st for finished applications. Completion date letters need to be provided.
4. Dean's Report (given by Peter)

1. There is an ongoing search for Associate Dean for Inclusion & Diversity. 4 candidates have been invited for on-campus interviews.
2. There is an ongoing search for a multi-cultural engineering director. 3 candidates have been interviewed on campus.
3. There is an ongoing search for a department head of Architectural Engineering. 3 candidates are currently interviewing.
4. An update on the graduate student unionization process was provided. The PA Labor Relations Board approved the unionization vote to include both TAs and RAs. Resources are available on web to discuss unionization (gradfacts.psu.edu). It is important for students to get out and vote. The Town Hall meeting is available online at live.psu.edu. Polling takes place April 11, 2018: 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m., Charles W. Mann Assembly Room, 103 Paterno Library; April 12, 2018: 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m., Charles W. Mann Assembly Room, 103 Paterno Library; and April 13, 2018: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Millennium Science Complex, Rooms W202 and W203.
5. Architects have met with IPAC members to discuss the master COE building plan.
6. Claude Steel, Vice-Chanc & Provost at UC Berkeley, will be speaking at a special seminar series. April 19th in Eisenhower auditorium. Ticketed event.
7. The number of undergraduate student applications to COE are slightly lower, compared to this time last year, by a modest amount (200 students).