

ENGINEERING FACULTY COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

September 17, 2019

11:00 a.m.

202 Hammond Building (Stavelly Conference Room)

- Approval of minutes for the meeting of April 9, 2019 and request a change to the agenda to add election of EFC secretary election under other business. - Approved unanimously
- Dr. Shelley Stoffels discussed the EFC role and constitution. The constitution was last updated 20 years ago. All members on the roster (listed on hand out) are voting members. A quorum of 51% is required to hold a vote. A quick summary of the meetings, separate from the official minutes, will be sent out by the Friday after a meeting to facilitate the sharing of EFC information. RSVPs will now be sent prior to the meetings and Zoom will be available for remote attendance. In person attendance is preferred whenever possible. If members cannot attend a meeting, they are requested to send a substitute who will be non-voting.

There is an opening for vice chair of the EFC. Interested parties should contact Dr. Stoffels. The election is planned to be held at the November meeting.

The standing and ad-hoc committees were discussed, and membership was requested. This year the EFC will update the college of Engineering Constitution.

- Dr. Tonya Peeples explained the purpose of the Ad hoc Faculty Equity Advisory Committee (refer to handout – last page). This includes recruitment, transition and on-boarding, advancement, and retention. The work will inform the strategic planning for faculty programs.
- Dean's Report
 - Dr. Peter Butler reported on undergraduate and graduate student enrollment for new admits based on the 4th Monday of the fall semester for the past four years. Current undergraduate enrollment is 1,781 with a peak of 2,010 in 2016. Graduate enrollment is up to 1,626 compared to last year and there are initiatives to grow graduate enrollment.
 - ACUE & ACGE: Academic Council on Undergraduate Education (ACUE) is working on implementing a revised course reattempt policy which will allow for 2 attempts to take a course and require a strong justification to take a course a third time. A grade forgiveness policy will allow up to 12 credits to be retaken. Both the new and old grade will appear on the transcript but only the new grade will count towards the

student's GPA. Neither policy is implemented yet. They were approved by the faculty senate, but the logistics are being worked on by ACUE. Academic Council on Graduate Education (ACGE) had a soft launch to track graduate student progress.

- Capital Projects: West 2 will be the first building constructed.
- College of Engineering: Sandra Allain will be the LPE director. A new seed program for mid-career faculty called ROCKET will be started. The consultation process is wrapping up for entrance to major changes. Feedback was generally supportive. New vice president of research Lora Weiss was hired. GSI will appear in the September paychecks.
- Updates from Graduate Studies Committee
 - Dr. Robert Collins discussed the proposal for a new degree D.Eng in Engineering. Two new courses are being proposed as part of this:
 - ENGR 810 - D. Eng Praxis Research
 - ENGR 820 – Applies Engineering Research Methods
 - Dr. Sven Bilen from SEDTAPP gave an overview about the online Doctor of Engineering in Engineering program.
- Updates from Undergraduate Studies Committee
 - Dr. Gary Gray presented the following:
 - Course adds:
 - AERSP 415 – Unanimously approved
 - BME 448 - Unanimously approved
 - CHE 444 - Unanimously approved
 - Course changes:
 - ME 420 - Unanimously approved
 - STS 233z - Unanimously approved
 - STS 245z - Unanimously approved
- Updates from Engineering Technology Committee
 - EMET at Altoona and Berks and SURE at Wilkes Barre have received full accreditation for six more years.
- Secretary Vote – (was moved ahead from other business by the chair to allow for voting while there was a quorum)
 - Mr. Jeff Chiampi was unanimously approved as the EFC secretary
- Update from the Graduate Council
 - Change to language exemption being discussed
 - Discussing the residency requirement for PHD

- Considering removing the minimal 6 credit of 500 course required for professional master's degrees.
- Update from faculty senate
 - The One Penn State (2025) has been a big area of discussion.
 - Minimums for faculty space have been discussed.
 - There will now be a Dean for the college of Medicine. There is currently an acting Dean and a search will commence.
 - Online proctoring has been an issue with Examity.
 - Enrollment pattern for the University follows the same found in the College of Engineering.
 - Every committee must include sustainability.
- Other Business - Dr. Shelley Stoffels
 - If you have items of concern to the EFC please let us know with.
 - There is a faculty committee for barriers to faculty productivity.
- Meeting adjourned at 12:40pm