

ENGINEERING FACULTY COUNCIL, September 14, 2021 11:00 a.m. – 12:12 p.m.

Meeting Minutes – Rob Kunz Secretary.

- Approval to record – approved
- Approval of minutes for the meeting of August 24, 2021 – approved
- Dean's report – Peter Butler: see Appendix 1. No enrollments data yet
 - Tenure & Promotion Process Overview - Anthony Atchley: Wrapping up faculty feedback portion of P&T criteria. EFC was involved in reviewing drafts. 2 more small focus group meetings to go. Once these are complete AA will synthesize feedback into the draft and share with Dean. Then share with EFC and ask final feedbacks and reasonably quick approval. Hopefully wrapped this semester – goal to roll out to faculty before years end. Still need EFC to think about **how** we roll it out. Current draft is available on teams (AA will make sure we have access). Constitution by-laws. Gone though and revised dated processes (last update from 1990s). Added professional track promotion guidelines. Will finish up within 2 weeks and send to Puneet 3 things: 1) word doc of existing constitutional bylaws, 2) revised version, 3) comparison of the two. Decided not to add Academic integrity. Goal is flexibility and staying power. Did not touch EFC sections of document.
 - Graduate Studies Forum Overview - George Lesieutre: ad-hoc committee on grad faculty status was worked last year under auspices of graduate council, draft set of recommendations based on discussions with faculty in all colleges. Expect to see draft this semester. Makes process more transparent in terms of criteria and takes these more under the control of the colleges. Grad enrollment and recruiting; goal of 2500 graduate students – 1900 now. Several more per faculty member. Increase COE research impact/reputation, consistent with young new faculty demographic. Striving to make E&I a bigger part of grad enrollment and recruiting. Working recruiting all the way though enrollment and retainment. Forum looking at issues including F&A rates being too high. Trepidation from faculty and Department heads on funding commitment to grad students. Need to offload other faculty activities and growing contracts office to accommodate. First year funding, post-award support. Marketing of graduate programs – Stephanie Kauffman, new graduate enrollment coordinator – working with Tonya Peebles, Department heads, PSU marketing. Messaging, tracking, communicating with students all part of her approach. Some departments are dropping GREs. Some departments are being very aggressive in making early multi-year offers to competitive graduate students. Peter Butler notes that the grad student count includes world campus and professional Masters. Also there is some revenue sharing. Additional TA support and sharing is on the table – way for increasing support for incoming grad students to be funded. This may be a relief valve for faculty work load while helping increase number of funded. Tom Hanna – president of Engineering Graduate Society – offers their assistance, and notes that salary is the number one deterrent for undergraduates to go to graduate school.

- Update from Undergraduate Studies Committee – Rob Leicht
 - ME 493 – Course Add - Approved
- Report from Ivan Esparragoza – walk through curriculum change process. Slides attached as Appendix 2.
- Update from Faculty Equity and Inclusion Committee – Tonya Peeples. Working on the Equity Action Plan. Getting feedback from Dean. Contacted by office of organizational excellence which is, which is the strategic planning group that's helping with implementation of strategic plans. As we look at sort of the goals that we have in the overall college strategic plan, there are a few places where we now have to be thinking about who's involved in implementation in terms of teams and one thing I wanted to call to the attention of this group. Educational innovation - curricular aspects or the equity pedagogy something she's really interested in engaging the subcommittee of this group. I have been sort of thinking about who should be a part of that conversation, of course, this assistant Dean for teaching and learning has a role as well as. Going to let Shelley update on what we've been doing in terms of our theme around mentoring, this year, and some of the inventories about what's actually going on in the College. Shelley Stoffels: I've been Speaking to the department heads, I have a few remaining left to go through, looking at what mentorship activities are currently going on in the departments. In the College of engineering, in addition to the activities at the dean's office or college level and we're defining mentorship broadly. Not just one to one mentoring relationships, but peer mentoring. Mentoring teams workshops oriented toward helping faculties be better mentors whether to faculty or to graduate students or postdocs. Considering the National Academies definition of mentorship. Also then looking at faculty from postdocs, research faculty, teaching faculty, tenure line faculty, and including into leadership, center directors, etc., particularly at the College level. Identify gaps that really no one's doing in the college such and some of those that. Nothing organized for postdocs there are some university level things but departments and PIs may not be aware of those. And so we are planning to provide some structure for faculty affinity groups at the College level, so it will also help to know what things are already going on to inform that. Tonya Peeples: There's an opportunity to bring in postdocs from diverse groups and also to recruit folks from other universities joining to commit to doing some work in developing our postdocs to become some of these future faculty. So that that's kind of the short synopsis of what this program is.
- Update from Faculty Senate – Alok Sinha – Today in the afternoon there is the first Senate meeting in this meeting, there is a proposal to create Senate policy 100-00. which states that faculty have the primary responsibility for curriculum and subject matter and methods of instruction, so this will be discuss today afternoon another

item from university planning committee today. US news world report rankings came and Penn State is no longer a top 50 University in US news and world report. According to the ranking published yesterday, we are ranked below University of Pittsburgh now, so it means that in Penn State is not the highest ranked public university in PA. So today a committee being formed which will look into that matter. Ranking is over that's the national in universities which have PhD degree Program. PSU used to be in top 50 not too long ago, four or five years ago yeah. Anthony Atchley: Engineering is tied for 21st with four or five other universities okay yeah.

- Update from Graduate Council - still need new rep for graduate council
 - Nothing to report
- Other business – none

Appendix 1 – Peter Butler Dean’s report:

- University
 - Effective for Spring 2022 registration, all undergraduates in a Pre-Major status will be required to complete the Major Preferences Student Activity Guide before they can register for Spring courses.
 - More specifics about this process can be found in the Penn State News article that published today: <https://news.psu.edu/story/668771/2021/09/09/lionpath-assigns-major-preferences-requirement-students>
- College
 - Tom Litzinger is Retiring Effective after spring semester
 - New position (Assistant Dean for Teaching and Learning and Director of the Leonhard Center) has been posted: https://psu.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/en-US/PSU_Academic/job/University-Park-Campus/Assistant-Dean--Teaching---Learning-and-Director--The-Leonhard-Center-for-the-Enhancement-of-Engineering-Education_REQ_0000019303
 - ETCE update (Engineering Technology and Commonwealth Engineering)
 - ETCE met on August 16-17
 - Discussed reorganization of duties of ETCE director
 - Ivan Esparragoza was past director and continues doing these functions
 - Will survey ETCE members

Appendix 2 – Ivan Esparragoza Presentation on Curricular Workflows

Curricular Workflows

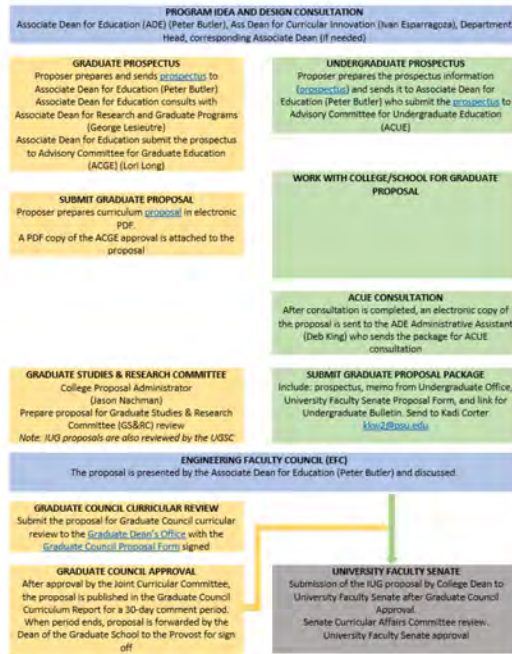
College of Engineering



College of Engineering Undergraduate and Graduate Curricular Review Process (Major, Option, or Minor – New, Change, or Drop)



College of Engineering IUG Curricular Review Process
(New, Change, or Drop)



College of Engineering Course Proposal Curricular Review Process
(All Course proposals are submitted through the Curriculum Review and Consultation System CRCS)

