

MEETING MINUTES

Engineering Faculty Council

Date: October 22nd, 2024

Time: 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Location: Zoom

Attendees: See Teams for official Attendance Record

Stephanie Velegol, Tracey Carbonetto, Eric Greenwood, Cibin Raj, Lucas Passmore, Sachin Gore, Amanda Johnsen Eric Donnell, Robert Rabb, Ivan Esparragoza, Amy Corbett, Lisa Petrino, Enrique Gomez, Christine Masters, Qiushi Chen, Brad Sottile, Richard Mistrick, Seong Kim, Constantino Lagoa, Gary Gray, Gregory Huff, Susan Stewart, Joe Daghir, Matt Zerphy, Sarah Zappe, Keefe Manning, Alfonso Meija, Jared Butler, Thomas Skibinski, Nathaniel Bohna, Shelley Stoffels

Summary:

- Chair Thomas Skibinski called the meeting to order and asked for approval to record – Approved.
- Tom asked for approval of the meeting minutes from the August 27th, 2024, meeting. A motion was made by Gregory Huff to approve and seconded by Richard Mistrick.
- **Chair's Report – Tom Skibinski**
- The EFC Report Out Slide is available the week after the meeting. The slide along with the minutes and attendance are posted in Teams. Please share with respective departments.
- Tom shared the link to President address and suggested that all who have not seen the address view it here: [Senior Leaders Share Penn State Update](#).

Associate Dean's Report-

- **Shelley Stoffels** informed us nominations for Distinguished Professor (AC10) are being accepted. [AC10 Distinguished Professorships](#). The deadline is October 4th. Names only, full packet with letters due by October 16. Last year there were 13 nominations with one nomination selected.
- **Eric Donnell** (for Vijay Narayanan) provided information on upcoming panel discussions/workshops, both in-person and virtual opportunities. October 7th, 12-1 Dept. of Defense funding. October 8th, 12-1 NSF Funding; later in the month, they plan to offer two sessions on disclosures and commercialization of research. Details to follow.
- **Enrique Gomez** mentioned the Engineering Calculus Student Success Initiative task force and goals. Math 140 is one of the most failed courses at Penn State, Rob Rabb is co-chairing the committee. *Engineering Calculus Student Success Task Force Initiative* along with task force members. Charge of ECSS task force is to identify and evaluate potential approaches to improve outcomes of pre-engineering students experiencing their first semester of calculus. Investigation as to what can be done in and out of the classroom. See Teams for more details.

- **Rob Rabb** informed us that a 5-year grad program review is coming up. Notifications will be sent to program coordinators and department heads. Data mining activity is scheduled to be complete by the end of October and the review completed by end of the semester.
- Also, those faculty using Grade Scope will be notified as this program is expensive. Alternatives such as capability within Canvas will be explored.

Assistant Deans' Reports-

- **Ivan Esparragoza** mentioned ABET review needed to be rescheduled but is on the books for next weekend.
- Ivan attended the Kean Leadership Team conference. Mentioned that it was very worthwhile.
- **Sarah Zappe** continued that the official announcement of the partnership with KEEN was made. The KEENoundation is beneficial to faculty for professional development especially in developing an entrepreneurial mindset. Will help faculty to design curriculum to include professional work skills. October 9th, 1-3 Leonard Center a "Peachy KEEN" celebration. Five golden tickets for the KEEN National Conference will be given away. \$25,000 of funding has been made available; details on allocations will be forthcoming.
- **Christine Masters** stated that two faculty members are needed for the Academic Integrity Committee with the hopes that one will line up to be the co-chair in the spring. Committees are made up of faculty/grad student/undergrad student. Meeting frequency is every 3-4 weeks; chairs will be discussing repeat offenders policy and sanction reviews/
- **Undergraduate Proposals – Sachin Gore**
CompSci 222, 320, 449, and 478 new courses approved; 478 has a B or higher in previous course prerequisite. RCNEN-UMNR program change approved. First Year Seminar courses will be discussed next meeting.
- **Graduate Proposals – Richard Mistrick**
ACS 553, 555, 560 course add approved; CompSci Grad Minor and IE Program change approved. However, discussion ensued on CoE continuously listed grad students working on thesis. There will be follow up on whether this is imposed.
- **Faculty Senate - Brad Sottile** – Brad first presented on the newly proposed Global Understanding courses (former US/IL). Will be voted on January 2025. Discussion on the 3-5 year mapping process. This affects several courses in CoE (see Brad's power point in Teams). However, this change does align with ABET accreditation. EFC will not have jurisdiction but can discuss.
- **Graduate Council – Susan Stewart-** Grad School has new name. Mentioned the impact of APPR. Great Valley is considering Comp Sci graduate degree.
- **New Business** –Amanda brought up the challenges of Engl 202C. Not enough capacity for engineering students. Departments are utilizing 97 courses; will continue to use until situation is resolved.

Meeting adjourned at 12:15 PM

Meeting Minutes prepared by: Tracey A Carbonetto
Tracey Carbonetto, Secretary

