College of Engineering Faculty Meeting Minutes
Michigan State University
Thursday, October 29, 2009

FINAL

1. Approve Minutes from the March 19, 2009 College Faculty Meeting: passed without changes.

2. Introduction of New Faculty and Staff

3. Comments and Questions on Last Year’s Committee Reports and Activities: Nothing recorded

4. Update on College and University Budget, Dean Udpa
   - Discussed need to maintain core College values even in times of severe budget cuts.
   - Discussed cost cutting actions sent forward to the Board of Trustees.
   - Provided very specific actions taken relating to budget cuts, including the following.
     - Several open faculty positions will not be filled.
     - Several open staff positions will not be filled or will be moved to research funding.
     - Substantial reduction in recurring budgets.
     - Several teaching assistantships will not be filled.
     - Support for undergraduate research positions will be reduced.
     - Currents will change to a web-based format.
   - Status of programs in the College was discussed including Development, Center/Spartan Engineering, Diversity, Center of Engineering Research, and Division of Engineering Computing Services.
   - Trajectory of freshman composite and Math ACT scores were discussed.
   - College has a lot to be optimistic about, including the following.
     - Productivity measures are up.
     - Strong faculty and staff.
     - Alignment of research with university and national goals.
     - Substantial success with proposal activities for large centers.

5. Update on Research Activities Over the past Year, Associate Dean Kempel
   - Research expenditures are on a very positive trajectory.
   - Sources of funding were discussed and compared for FY 06-07 and FY 07-08.
   - National Science Foundation has higher FY10 funding than in FY09, although not appropriated yet. Amounts for the sub-directorates were presented.
   - Department of Defense research funding projections for FY10 were presented. The Energy Hub programs and Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy program were specifically discussed.
   - National Institute of Health projected funding was discussed.
6. **Update on Graduate Studies, Associate Dean Koochesfahani**
   - Data from the US News 2009 ranking was reviewed including MSU's low # Ph.D. students/Faculty ratio.
   - The 12 year graph of M.S. and Ph.D. enrollment and earned degrees was presented. Ph.D. enrollment has been climbing over the past 3 years and is at a 10 year high. Although M.S. enrollment is slightly up this year it is still very low compared to 6 years ago.
   - Ph.D. median time to degree for each engineering department was graphically shown.
   - Ph.D. retention has been increasing constantly for the last 5 years with a substantial increase from 2007 to 2008.

7. **Update on Undergraduate Studies, Associate Dean Wolff**
   - A 10 year enrollment graph showed recent increases in freshmen enrolment and rising ACT scores.
   - The Spartan Engineering residential experience is launched with ~300 students participating this year. Seminars and advising in Wilson Hall are now ongoing.
   - Enrolment in EGR 101 and EGR 102 was reviewed.
   - The second phase of the CPATH/CPACE NSF grant was awarded.
   - Center for Engineering Education has grown with encouragement to increase the number of active faculty in its activities.
   - Thanks were given to faculty engaged with the Connector Faculty program.
   - The Applied Engineering Sciences program is being reviewed.
   - Number of employers at the Career Gallery has decreased. Students are encouraged to attend.
   - The Diversity Programs Office has a proposal for a 5 year renewal of the NSF-LSAMP retention grant.
   - Academic dishonesty was discussed, including the new tracking and reporting requirements.

8. **Public Comment:** Nothing recorded

Respectfully Submitted:

Steven Safferman