

**College of Engineering Faculty Meeting Minutes**  
**Michigan State University**  
**Thursday, October 16, 2008**

FINAL

1. **Services Provided by MSU Technologies – Dr. Sean Reeder:** redundant with a presentation last week so removed from the agenda.
2. **Biobased Technology – Dr. Bryan Ritchie, Associate Professor of International Relations and Associate Director of External Strategy, Office of Biobased Technologies:** the emphasis of the program is establishing the biocollaborative, representing a portal to the University for corporations.
3. **Approve Minutes of the March 20, 2008 College Faculty Meeting:** passed without changes.
4. **Status of College – Dean Satish Udpa**
  - Suggested stating in presentations that the College of Engineering has been serving the nation and world for over 100 years.
  - Ph.D. graduates in Engineering during the 2007-2008 academic year were down from last year.
  - B.S. graduates in Engineering during the 2007-2008 academic year were down from last year. This is a similar trend for all universities. The College is tracking efforts at the national level to encourage enrollment in engineering undergraduate programs.
  - The Spartan Residential Experience program was described and compared to the Cornerstone program. Details concerning the Residential Program were listed.
    - Housed in Wilson Hall.
    - Students from non-engineering majors are included in the residential hall.
    - Floors will be themed and related activities are planned.
    - An entrepreneur-in-residence will spend a 2 to 3 week period in the hall to work with students.
    - Senior design center and computer first year laboratories are housed in the hall.
    - Evening seminars will occur.
    - Advisors and peer advisors will have offices in the hall.
    - First year student population of 400 is anticipated. Juniors, seniors, and graduate students will also be housed in the hall.
    - Goal is for this program to be a flag ship student residential program, number one in the country.
  - Record number of new faculty members were hired over the last year.
  - Engineering research expenditures are at an all time high of approximately \$35,000,000.
  - The Center (student career services office) is having a large impact. Substantial employer participation at the Engineering Expo and Career Gallery resulted. Other noteworthy programs that are new or improved include the co-op/intern experiences, Corporate Spring Break, EGR100career component, resume critique service, mock interview service, first work programs, and YouTube employment expectation advice.
5. **Status of Research – Dr. Leo Kempel, Associate Dean for Research**
  - MSU Technologies will be locating a staff member at the Engineering Building half-time to help with disclosures and other patent/licensing issues.
  - Research expenditures and the number of faculty are at an all time high.
  - Sources of expenditures were reviewed.

- U.S. News rankings were discussed and specific indicators were compared to The Ohio State University.
- Recent focus areas are energy, health, sustainability, and security.
- Recent submissions for center funding were noted.
- DOD Multidisciplinary University Research Initiative (MURI) white papers are currently due in May 2009.
- NSF Engineering Research Center RFP announcement should be out during the first quarter of next year.

**6. Status of Graduate Studies – Dr. Manooch Koochesfahani, Associate Dean for Graduate Students and Faculty Development**

- Provided data on the number of M.S. and Ph.D. students. The trend is down for M.S. and up for Ph.D. students.
- Using the U.S. News ranking, a comparison of the ratio of Ph.D. students to full time employees (FTE) in the College of Engineering with other Big 10 Universities was presented. This indicator is much lower at MSU than the highly ranked Universities. A similar trend does not follow for M.S. students.
- Similar comparisons were made for the U.S. News expenditures/FTE indicator. The current College level of approximately \$200,000/FTE is low compared to other Big 10 Universities.
- Increasing Engineering's national ranking were discussed.

**7. Status of Undergraduate Studies – Dr. Tom Wolff, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies**

- Enrollment trends were briefly reviewed.
- Cornerstone Engineering Program launched in Fall 2008. Included are EGR 100 and EGR 102. New facilities including a computer lab and design studio were built in Wilson Hall for this program.
- Spartan Engineering Residential Experience components were explained.
  - Will move from Bailey Hall to Wilson Hall in the Fall of 2009.
  - Goal is to have 400 first year, 200 sophomore, and a total of 100 junior and senior students, for a total of 700 engineering students, residing in the hall at any time. The balance of the students, 400, will be non-engineering students. If more students want to participate than available rooms, they will be placed in Holden Hall.
  - Students will have common scheduled classes, tutors, peer leaders, and sponsored themes.
- Details concerning the NSF \$2,500,000 STEP Program were discussed. An email will be sent to faculty requesting participation.

**8. Status of College Strategic Planning – Dr. Shanker Balasubramaniam, Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering**

- Initiated as an ECAC request.
- Tom Sipila, a volunteer not associated with the College, is facilitating the planning.
- Memberships include a faculty member from each department and 2 associate deans.
- A strength, weakness, opportunities, threat (SWOT) analysis is being conducted.
- Analyses are being conducted to establish core values, mission, vision, and key strategic issues.
- College functions of research, education, and technology transfer are targeted.
- Completion of planning is anticipated by the middle of November 2008.

- 9. Proposed Changes in College By-Laws – Dr. Mark Worden, Chair of Engineering College Advisory Council and Professor of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science:** changes are proposed concerning the division of the Engineering Research and Graduate Studies Committee into 2 committees, one for research and one for graduate studies. The exact changes and a ballot will be sent to all faculty members.
- 10. MSU Community Charitable Campaign – Craig Gunn, College Representative for the MSUCCC and Senior Academic Specialist of Mechanical Engineering:** 2 weeks remain in this year's campaign. The supported activities and importance were summarized.
- 11. Introduction of New Faculty and Staff (Chairpersons):** the Chairs, or their representatives, introduced recently hired faculty and staff members.
- 12. Refreshments and Informal Discussions**

Respectfully Submitted:  
Steve Safferman