present: Engeda, Jain, Portis, Safferman, Udpa, Worden

1. Minutes: the minutes from the September 24, 2008 meeting were approved with minor revisions.

2. Dean's Comment: College of Engineering research expenditures from July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008 are at an all time high (close to $35 million). This represents close to a 50% increase from two years ago.

3. University-Level Committee Appointments
   a. University Curriculum Committee: Tom Bieler has been appointed.
   b. All-University Awards Committee – Teacher Scholar Awards: Susan Masten and Andrew Mason are recommended to serve. Only one will be selected.
   c. University Faculty Council: Robert Ofoli remains on the committee and will find a substitute for meetings this semester as he has a conflict.

4. Proposed Splitting the Engineering Research and Graduate Studies Committee: the proposed division of the Engineering Research and Graduate Studies Committee into two committees, one that emphasizes research and another for graduate studies, is an agenda item for the October 16, 2008 College of Engineering Faculty meeting. A paper ballot with the changes to the College Bylaws will follow to all Engineering faculty.

5. DECS Online Faculty Activities Report Database: changes are currently being made based on input from faculty feedback with plans to bring the new system online in the near future.

6. Draft Agenda for COE Faculty Meeting on October 16: the draft agenda for the Engineering College Faculty Meeting was discussed. Refreshments will be available to encourage further discussions after the meeting.

7. Evaluation Guidelines for Promoting Research Faculty: The ECE draft document is not yet available so the topic is postponed until a future meeting.

8. New ECAC Initiatives
   - In the past, the ECAC has brought forward emerging topics for discussion and potential action. This practice is proposed to continue.
   - Emerging issues discussed in the past and actions taken will be evaluated for impact.
   - An important topic to be discussed at future ECAC meetings is techniques to increase the College of Engineering rankings, including studying other institutions that have had recent success in increasing their rankings. The importance of public relations was also discussed.

9. Other Issues: the new College of Engineering web site is functioning and all Departmental sites will be updated by the end of this year.

Respectfully Submitted:
Steve Safferman