Minutes of the Engineering Undergraduate Studies Committee (EUSC)
February 19, 2015

Present, EUSC: Masten (ENE), Rothwell (ECE), Liao (BAE), Owen (CSE), Genik (AES), Brereton (ME), Lee (CHEMS), Wolff (DE), Al Dhaneem (Student), Ruiz (Student)

Absent, EUSC: Mahapatra (ECE, UCC)

Also present: Pease (DE), Idema (DE)

1. Agenda: Approved

2. Minutes of February 5, 2015 were approved

3. Computational Mathematics, Science and Engineering Minor. Andrew Christlieb, joint with Mathematics and ECE joined the meeting to discuss items 3 through 5.

Those in Natural Science leading the planning of the new department of Computational Mathematics, Science and Engineering posted a minor and a number of courses to the university governance approval system for College signoff by Wolff. This came as a bit of a surprise, as neither Wolff nor the leadership of the CSE department had been involved in prior discussions. Several faculty in CSE had been, but no materials had formally reached department or college administrators for discussion. The proposed minor was submitted under the NSC alpha code, with the intent to change to the CMSE alpha code after the department is approved by the Board of Trustees. Prior to the meeting, the Provost’s office and the College of Natural Science agreed that the minor would not be moved forward until after the department is approved in April. Hence, this became an information item.

4. NSC 204, 205. These two courses, foundational in the minor, were not in submitted in the approval queue for Engineering, despite having programming content. Wolff directed Mahapatra, meeting with the University Curriculum Committee in the same hour, to move to table until Engineering could further consider.

5. NSC 310, 311, 312, 480, 481, 482, 483, 485, 486. These are additional undergraduate courses in the proposed minor. Again, the first view of these was when they appeared in the approval system, which has a 14 day time window to approve or comment; without comment they move forward. Prior to the meeting, the College of Natural Science agreed to hold their approval pending further discussions with CSE and Engineering.

Comments from Christlieb regarding items 3 through 5:

- The minor and courses focus more on modeling than programming. Some programming will be taught as a tool for modeling.
- Christlieb noted that the Parallel Processing course should be cross-listed with CSE, and they welcome discussion.

Christlieb and Brian O’Shea were to meet with the CSE curriculum committee on Friday, February 20. Consideration will come back to the EUSC following further discussions between CNS, CSE and the college.

6. The commencement speaker subcommittee, Idema, Masten and Ruiz will begin reviewing commencement speaker applications.
7. Wolff reported on the Student Engineering Council’s open forum with Dean Kempel. The lack of space in the computer labs was a prime concern. He will be working with DECS and the SEC to further consider options.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas F. Wolff
Secretary