Minutes of the Engineering Undergraduate Studies Committee (EUSC)

February 3, 2016

Present, EUSC: Masten (ENE), Genik (AES), Lee (CHEMS), Liao (BAE), Rothwell (ECE), Frahm (Student), Miles (Student)

Absent, EUSC: Buch (DE), Idema (DE), Mahapatra (ECE, UCC), Brereton (ME), Owen (CSE)

Also present: Pease (DE), A. Pollock (CEM), J. Ward (CEM) and M. Cooper (CEM)

1. Agenda: APPROVED

2. Draft Minutes of January 20, 2016 were APPROVED.

3. Amy Pollock, Joe Ward and Melanie Cooper from Chemistry were present to inform the EUSC of reforms to the Chemistry curriculum.

CEM 141, 142, 161, and 162 have all been updated. CEM 141 and 142 have also been changed to make the courses more scientific rather than fact-based. Students are constructing models and arguments. They are asking questions. Equilibrium and kinetics have been moved from CEM 141 to CEM 142. All lectures using reformed curriculum as of Fall 2015. Note: Kinetics and equilibrium no longer in 141, moved to 142.

CEM 161 and 162 labs are now project based, with 4-5 labs conducted per semester. The labs take several weeks to complete. Students work in groups of 4-5 and the role of each student changes with each project. The focus is processed based instead of ‘right’ answer. The impetus for the changes is to transform chemistry to align with new pedagogical techniques based on grant funding. In CEM 161 students write individual formal report. They also work in groups to prepare and deliver oral and poster presentations.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:37 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Masten and Laura J Genik for Neeraj Buch