



SAN DIEGO STATE  
UNIVERSITY  
College of Engineering

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES**

February 1, 2017  
2:00pm, Dean's Conference Room

Attendees: Dean Mehrabadi, Drs. J. Abraham, P. Lu, C. Mi, E. Olevsky, J. Supernak; Theresa Garcia and Marcie Morihoro

Guest: Kim Dufour, CoE Senior Director of Development

Dean Mehrabadi called the meeting to order at 2:04pm

**1. Development Update**

- 1) Kim Dufour, CoE Senior Director of Development, informed the Committee that the Evening of Distinction, celebrating philanthropy for people who have given over \$1M to SDSU will take place on Tuesday, February 7, from 5:30pm-7:30pm. SDG&E is being presented with an award. Alan Dulgeroff will be accepting the award on behalf of SDG&E.
- 2) Kim DuFour also informed the Committee that the CoE has over \$100K of scholarships that was not awarded. Other Colleges have also had the same issue and the President wants these funds to be used. Kim Dufour and Theresa Garcia met with Colleen Conniff at the Financial & Scholarship Office to discuss the issue. It was found that some of the scholarships had no applicants and that the Scholarship Office had not made the scholarships public. The Department Chairs need to help publicize the scholarships. The Chancellor's Office has mandated that Scholarship Committees have at least (3) members. It was noted that CoE is in compliance with this mandate. It was also pointed out that the University Scholarship Management System (USMS) is online and available for anyone to access.

**2. Approval of 1/18/17 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**

The minutes of 1/18/17 were unanimously approved.

**3. Alumni Award for Outstanding Faculty Contributions**

Marcie Morihoro handed out the nomination form for the Alumni Award for Outstanding Faculty Contributions (Faculty Montys) and reminded the Committee members of the 2/13/2017 deadline.

**4. Alumni Awards of Distinction (Montys)**

The Montys (Alumni Awards of Distinction) will be held this year in October 2017, either on October 8th or 15th. SDSU Homecoming and football schedule will be a factor in determining this date. The Chairs were reminded that, before the next Executive Committee Meeting on 2/15/17, the Departments should determine their Alumni Montys Award nominees. The Executive Committee will vote on one person to send forward for the Alumni Montys Award.

**5. Faculty Online Assigned Time (AT) Reports**

The deadline for Faculty to input their Annual Reports online has now passed. The Dean re-emphasized to the Chairs the importance of abiding by the CoE AT Policy when giving out AT. He also pointed out that they are ultimately responsible for the fair distribution of AT within their Departments and the CoE. He also pointed out that, in addition to the Annual Reports, faculty should also submit their full CVs to the Chairs. It was stated that some faculty would prefer to have the ability to upload their CV. The Committee liked the idea and this feature is to be added at the end of the Annual Report online form.

6. **“Strategic Hiring of Faculty” and “Priority Faculty Hiring”**

Dr. Steve Welter, VP for Research & Dean of Graduate Affairs confirmed today in the Deans Research Council (DRC), that the Strategic Hiring of faculty positions are included in the 300 new positions that the University had planned three years ago and not in addition to those 300 positions as reported earlier. The Dean said that we should start preparing for faculty lines soon even though no announcement has been made by Academic Affairs. The Dean would like the Departments to discuss the issue at the Departmental Faculty meetings to determine their (critical need) priorities for the new faculty lines.

7. **Independent PhD Programs**

The Dean asked the Committee members if there are other niche areas, in addition to Transportation Engineering and Space Engineering that could be possibilities for independent PhD programs.

8. **Update on Research & Graduate Studies**

Dr. Eugene Olevsky provided the following updates:

- 1) Dr. Olevsky has been working on a large proposal due 2/7/17 for creation of a new interdisciplinary Joint Doctoral Program in Advanced Manufacturing for \$3M and involves UCSD, SDSU Faculty from Engineering, Sciences and Education. Dr. Marcie Michel-Bober, SDSU Senate Chair, is going to help with the proposal.
- 2) The Executive Committee discussed the “Call for Equipment to Support Research, Creative Activities or Core Facility Upgrades”. The Committee unanimously agreed that the process will be the same as the Sabbatical/DIP Leave process with the College Committee choosing (3) proposals in ranked order to Dr. Olevsky and he will send forward the final ranked proposals to Dr. Steve Welter.
- 3) JDP Steering Committee – All Departments have sent forth a representative chosen by their faculty.

9. **Explore SDSU – Sat, March 18, 2017**

- 1) The Chairs gave the following updates to Theresa Garcia for Explore SDSU:  
AE – Dr. Ping Lu will inform Donovan if Dr. Katz is able to do a demo.  
CCEE – Dr. Janusz Supernak confirmed that the following CCEE Faculty will be doing demos: Drs. Robert Dowell, Sahar Ghanipoor Machiani, Alicia Kinoshita, Natalie Mladenov and Julio Valdes.  
ECE – Dr. Chris Mi confirmed that the following ECE Faculty will be doing demos: Drs. Reza Sabzeghar and Satish Sharma. Professor Ken Arnold and Mark Bruno will also be doing demos.  
ME – Dr. John Abraham confirmed that Drs. Kaveh Akbari Hamed and Sam Kassegne will be doing demos in addition to Professor Tom Johnston and Michael Lester.
- 2) Theresa Garcia mentioned that the SD Science Sampler will take place on the same day and we need a demo for this event as well.

10. **Advising for Colleges**

Theresa Garcia updated the Committee that the Provost called a meeting of the Assistant Deans to speak about advising. Last Fall the Assistant Deans had submitted reports on how advising is currently working and what would make advising better. Due to the 2025 graduation-rate goals for CSU, the Provost is going to propose some funding for a 50% faculty/lecturer to run the advising for each College along with the Assistant and Associate Deans of Undergraduate Studies.

11. **2016-17 CoE Important Dates to Remember:**

- **Feb 14, 2017 (Tue)** – 11:00am-12:00pm – **CoE Faculty Meeting** – Gold Auditorium, Bioscience Center
- **Mar 18, 2017 (Sat)** – 8:00am-2:00pm - **Explore SDSU**
- **Apr 18, 2017 (Tue)** - 11:00am-12:00pm – **CoE Faculty Meeting** – Gold Auditorium, Bioscience Center
- **May 3, 2017 (Wed)** – 8:30am-1:30pm – **Spring 2017 Engineering Advisory Board Mtg** – Aztec Student Union Center, Templo Mayor Conference Room

- **May 3, 2017 (Wed)** – 1:30pm-3:30pm – **2017 Engineering Design Day** - Aztec Student Union Center, Montezuma Hall
- **May 4, 2017 (Thu)** – 5:30pm-7:30pm – **2017 Senior Banquet** – PPG Alumni Center
- **May 13, 2017 (Sat)** – 5:30pm-7:30pm – **2017 Engineering Commencement** – Viejas Arena

## 12. 2/1/17 – Deans Research Council (DRC) & Academic Deans Council (ADC)

### DRC

- 1) Mini-cluster Hires – As mentioned earlier, per Dr. Steve Welter, these positions will not be in addition to the 300 faculty positions announced earlier by the University.
- 2) Reviewing JDP structure – The Research & Graduate Affairs Office is worried about enrollment growth and increasing cost to the University and whether faculty are investing money into their JDP students.
- 3) Dr. Chris Xanthos – Dr. Xanthos is the AVP – Business Operations responsible for the SDSU cyber security. He is also responsible for SDSU ID implementation. He discussed the IT infrastructure research and issues with accessing some licensed softwares from off campus. Dr. Xanthos has formed a committee to address the needs of faculty involved in computational research. From Engineering, Dr. Christopher Paolini serves on the Committee and could be contacted to discuss issues relevant to computational research. The Committee's findings will be distributed among the faculty as soon as they become available.
- 4) Dr. Suchi Ayala – Spoke about the SDSU Healthlink which is the new name for the \$10M population health and health disparities proposal that was awarded to SDSU.

### ADC

- 1) Provost – The Provost emphasized that the Co-founder & Director of Costco Wholesale Corporation, Jim Sinegal, will be the speaker at the Provost Distinguished Lecture on March 1, from 2pm-3:30pm, in Montezuma Hall.
- 2) Political Issues – Dr. Joanna Brooks, AVP Academic Affairs – Faculty Advancement spoke about the countries affected by President Trump's ban. There are (7) visiting faculty from Iran that are having issues as well as students from Iran. President Hirshman sent out an e-mail informing people not to leave the country.
- 3) SDSU Chronicle – The Provost has started a newsletter called the SDSU Chronicle.
- 4) Deans & AVP Reports
  - A) Dean Mehrabadi provided an update to the ADC and mentioned that there are not a lot of CEM Endowed Professor applicants (Dr. Supernak provided an update to the Executive Committee that there are now seven candidates and some of these will be invited for Skype interviews). The Dean also mentioned the growth of enrollment and how the enrollment in the seven SDSU Colleges have evolved between Fall 2011 and Fall 2016. While in 2011 only 9% of SDSU students were enrolled in Engineering, in Fall 2016, the Engineering students constitute 13% of SDSU students. Accordingly, the enrollment in some other Colleges (CAL, PSFA, HHS) have dropped, or remained stagnant (CoS). And, despite the fact that the CoE enrollment has grown more than any other College at SDSU, the College has almost the same number of faculty and staff and overall budget as in Fall 2011.
  - B) Dean of Library, Dr. Gail Etschmaier stated that electronic periodical licenses are now being signed by Business & Financial Affairs and there has been a delay.
  - C) Discovery SLAM – The Deans were asked to advertise it to their faculty and encourage their attendance.
- 5) University Budget – SDSU asked for an additional \$343M to cover expenses, but only received \$157.2M from the State in the Governor's January budget.
- 6) Tuition – A 5% increase in tuition has been discussed but CSU has to approve. CSU spent a lot of money on Faculty raises and only 4% was covered by state and the remaining money came from the reserve funds which are now very low.
- 7) Dr. Norah Shultz – Dr. Shultz, AVP Undergraduate Studies gave an update about "META" majors which are appropriate for students who are undeclared for the first two years. They have these students take various courses to find what they are interested in. This does not affect Engineering, it is more for Arts and Letters and Professional Studies and Fine Arts students.

### 13. **Roundtable**

Dr. Ping Lu – Within the next 10 days AE will conduct onsite interviews of (3) AE candidates and try to make a decision at the earliest possible time to compete with other universities.

Dr. Janusz Supernak – The CEM Endowed Professor is going well and there are (6) candidates from the current search and (1) from the last search. Dr. Supernak thinks that (3) of the candidates will be quite strong. EnvE has candidates coming in next two weeks.

Dr. Chris Mi – All ECE faculty interviews finish this week and Department will vote on 2/17. Dr. Mi is proposing an ECE Engineering 101 course to start in fall 2017, but it may be Spring 2018 and will teach it for the beginning semester. There is a significant drop (50%) in graduate applications to ECE.

Theresa Garcia – As a member of the Commuter Student Success Committee Theresa has been charged in servicing every Engineering & STEM incoming commuter student. MESA has a transition course ENGR 96 to incoming students which covers study skills, where everything is located on campus, Career Services, etc. Theresa will have (2) more sections of the ENGR 96 course using a graduate student from Student Affairs.

Having gone through all the items on the agenda, Chris Mi moved, Ping Lu seconded and the Committee unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting at 4:52 pm.

Minutes submitted by Marcie Morihiro, February, 24, 2017.