



COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING FACULTY MEETING
Minutes of
Tuesday, February 11, 2020 – 11:00am-12:00pm
Gold Auditorium, Bioscience Center

Faculty Members Present: J. Abraham, R. Akhavian, B. Aksanli, A. Alimohammad, T. Alves, A. Ashrafi, A. Bani Younes, Z. Bayasi, A. Beyene, J. Camacho, J. Chen, L. Demasi, C. Dykstra, T. Garcia, T. Garoma, S. Ghanipoor Machiani, A. Jahangiri, P. Katira, J. Katz, A. Kinoshita, X. Liu, P. Lu, S. Manshadi, K. May-Newman, C. Mi, M. Miletic, F. Miller, N. Mladenov, B. Narang, D. Nguyen, E. Olevsky, Y. Ozturk, C. Paolini, S. Park, R. Sabzehgar, M. Sarkar, J. Supernak, A. Szeto, H. Tavakol, Y. Teh, H. Töreyin, J. Valdes, S. Venkataraman, W. Xu, Y. Yang

Members Absent: R. Betancourt, A. Bhalla, S. Bhattacharjee, R. Dowell, A. Engin, K. Huang, G. Jacobs, S. Kassegne, R. Kline, S. Kumar, T. Mitropoulos, K. Moon, S. Nagaraj, P. Naseradinmousavi, H. Nouroollahi, V. Ponce, P. Popov, S. Sharma, R. Tummala, M. Verbyla, K. Wood

Members Excused: M. Gupta (class), T. Johnston (class), J. Kang (conference), K. Morsi (proposal), N. Nosseir (FERP), A. Plotkin (class), S. Seshagiri (meeting), J. Xie (business trip), G. Youssef (meeting)

Staff Members Present: K. Carinder, M. Morihiro

Guest: Kara Peterson and Andrea Rivas, SDSU Project Management

Dean Olevsky called the meeting to order at 11:05am.

1) Announcements & Updates

- A) Kate Carinder, Senior Director of Development for Engineering, provided an update on the fundraising efforts with alumni, donors, and friends of Engineering.
- B) Dean Olevsky provided the following updates: i) the Dean and the College welcomed new faculty member, Dr. Yang Yang, Assistant Professor, Mechanical Engineering Department, who joined the CoE in Spring 2020; ii) New faculty searches: (10) Assistant Professors; and (2) Associate Deans. Currently, most of the searches are in the process of 2nd (shortlist) or 3rd stages (on-campus interviews).

2) State of the College

Dean Olevsky covered the following topics:

A) Research and Graduate Program

- 1) Research awards to Engineering PIs during 2015-2019 reached a total of 350, diversely distributed among a large number of funding agencies, such as NSF, DOD, DOE, NASA, CA agencies, industrial companies, etc.
- 2) It is possible to measure the publication efficiency of faculty by using h-index and m-index. Based on the last data for CoE faculty, the calculated SDSU CoE publication efficiency, m-index= 0.62.

- 3) The total dollars awarded to Engineering faculty has been increasing from 2018 to now.
- 4) (47) JDP students enrolled in Spring 2020, and were distributed more evenly and among different Departments in 2020 as compared with previous years. (30) new JDP students are going to enroll in Fall 2020, but only (3) are graduating at the same time, as a result, we may have a substantially larger number of students by Fall 2020.
- 5) The rapid increase in the number of JDP students brings some challenges, such as tuition fees, stipends, etc. A support of a JDP student approximately costs \$53K-\$72K per year, per student.
- 6) Master's Program: The enrollment of Master's students has been declining over the past five years - mostly due to a drastic decline in international student enrollment. The College is trying to come up with new ways of recruiting new Masters' students to address this issue.

B) Undergraduate Program Update

- 1) Unit Reduction Proposal - Interim Assoc. Dean Ozturk further explained that this year, the Area D and B proposals might be passed by the Senate, but area A might have some difficulty passing, which will then be possibly dealt with and discussed in the following year.

3) **Approval of 12/3/19 CoE Faculty Meeting Minutes**

The minutes of the 12/3/19 CoE Faculty Meeting were unanimously approved by all faculty present.

4) **Update on CoE DEI (Diversity, Equity & Inclusion) Council**

Dr. Mahasweta Sarkar, Chair, CoE DEI Council, provided the following updates:

- A) A brief introduction on the organizational structure of the DEI at University, College, and Departmental levels.
- B) The CoE DEI Council came up with the College diversity statement incorporating the feedback/data received from the Engineering faculty and staff survey completed in Fall 2019.
- C) Dr. Sarkar explained the plans for the Spring 2020 and Fall 2020 semesters, and that the CoE DEI Council will eventually need to come up with 3 smart goals for CoE DEI issues and how the CoE plans to implement them.

5) **Update on Engineering Lab Renovations**

Kara Peterson and Andrea Rivas, SDSU Project Management, provided updates on the Engineering renovations.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00pm.

Minutes submitted by Dr. Wenwu Xu on February 20, 2020.