



SAN DIEGO STATE
UNIVERSITY

College of Engineering

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING FACULTY MEETING

Minutes of Tuesday, February 16, 2021

11:00am-12:00pm

Meeting held via Zoom

Faculty Members Present: J. Abraham, Z. Ahmadabadi, R. Akhavian, B. Aksanli, A. Alimohammad, T. Alves, A. Bani Younes, A. Beyene, S. Bhattacharjee, M. Capriotti, J. Chen, L. Demasi, C. Dykstra, A. Engin, T. Garcia, T. Garoma, S. Ghanipoor Machiani, K. Huang, G. Jacobs, A. Jahangiri, J. Kang, S. Kassegne, P. Katira, J. Katz, A. Kinoshita, X. Liu, P. Lu, S. Manshadi, C. Mi, M. Miletic, F. Miller, T. Mitropoulos, K. Moon, K. Morsi, D. Nguyen, E. Olevsky, Y. Ozturk, C. Paolini, S. Park, A. Plotkin, R. Sabzehgar, S. Sharma, J. Supernak, H. Tavakol, Y. Teh, H. Töreyin, E. Torresani, J. Valdes, S. Venkataraman, M. Verbyla, K. Wood, J. Xie, W. Xu, Y. Yang, G. Youssef

Members Absent: A. Ashrafi, Z. Bayasi, A. Bhalla, , J. Camacho, S. Kumar, K. May-Newman, S. Nagaraj, P. Naseradinmousavi, H. Nourollahi, P. Popov, M. Sarkar, S. Seshagiri

Members Excused: R. Betancourt (FERP), R. Dowell, R. Kline (FERP), N. Mladenov (Sabbatical), B. Narang (FERP), V. Ponce (FERP), R. Tummala (FERP)

Staff Members Present: Kate Carinder, Marcie Morihoro, William Nguyen

Dean Olevsky called the meeting to order at 11:02am.

1. Announcements & Updates

Kate Carinder, Sr. Director of Development for Engineering, provided the following URAD Engineering updates:

- CoE funds raised to date is \$5.7M, close to the goal of \$6M.
- College endowment reached \$22M as of 12/31/2020.
- Brief updates on the development priorities for FY20/21, such as faculty support, scholarship support, etc.
- Brief updates on other endowments and gifts: 1) Mr. Alfredo Aldrete (BSEE 97') and Mrs. Sandra P. Aldrete (BSME97') gifts for MESA program in 2020 Fall; and 2) McCarthy Building Companies gift to support CM in Fall 2020.
- In response to question about endowment of memorial scholarship for Monte Mehrabadi (previous Dean of CoE), no major endowment has been achieved so far.

2. State of the College

Dean Olevsky covered the following topics:

A) Update on Faculty Searches for 2020-21

- (2) CCEE and (1) ME position have been filled, faculty to start 8/2021. (1) CCEE position is still ongoing.
- (1) AE position was opened and searches are being conducted.
- It is possible that there will be 76 T/TT faculty in the CoE by Fall 2022.

B) College Budget 20/21

- Instructional budget: salaries for T/TT faculty, lecturers, TA, GA, ISA's, Startup TA/GA support. Balance is now ~\$200k.
- Non-instructional budget: staff salaries, startup summer pay, others, balance is now ~\$7k.

- Operational budget: general operations, open university, equipment, renovations, startup fund, centers/awards, JDP payments, funds taken by Academic Affairs, etc. Balance is now ~\$68k.
- C) Update on Renovation of Building A
- Space utilization: 8 new research labs, 7 new offices/conference rooms, and student club space.
 - Construction photos of current renovation status.
 - Final inspections/occupancy will be 4/14-4/15/2021.
 - Update on the main Engineering building renovation, e.g., replacement of display cabinets.
- D) Research & Graduate Program Update (data prepared by Interim Assoc. Dean Temesgen Garoma)
- Brief update on the College research activities, including proposals and awards in the College of Engineering from 7/1/2020 to 1/31/2021. Highlights include: research dollars so far ~\$5.7M, which is ~73.5% of FY 2020.
 - Brief update on the JDP Fall 2021 applications: so far, 16 were denied admissions out of 27 recommendations.
 - Update on m-index of CoE: now 0.72 of 2020, which is higher than 0.64 of 2019.
 - Update on the JDP funding requirement: faculty has to have at least 3 years for potential funding (for supporting PhD students) pre-available to be eligible for new hire. Also, the response to external reviewers of the JDP Program Review was submitted, waiting for response from the UCSD Graduate Council.
 - Update on the MS program: increased applicants in 2021 as compared with last year.
 - Information provided on a few University internal funds for students: UGF, PGRF, MRS, etc.
- E) Undergraduate Program Update (data prepared by Interim Assoc. Dean Yusuf Ozturk)
- Update on ABET timeline, ABET visit is taking place 10/16-10/18/2021.
 - There is an excess enrollment issue for some students. Decision was made by Senate to limit students to 21 units. For additional units, students need to get approval from their Department.
 - Multifactor admission: eligibility index will not be used in 2021 admission.
 - The enrollment yield dropped from 26.53% in 2015, to 18.05% in 2020.
 - Update on the graduation rate. A highlight is that 4-year graduation rate has been doubled over the past three years.
 - Update on class schedule: more in person classes in Summer 2021. Possible that most classes may be in person with a limited online (larger classes) in Fall 2021, depending on the COVID status.
- F) Approval of 12/1/2020 CoE Faculty Meeting Minutes
Dr. Hassan Tavakol-Davani – 1st motion and Dr. Sam Kassegne – 2nd motion; and the minutes were approved at 11:59am.

3. Q&A Session

Q1. Status of staff member new hires?

A1. Plan of new hire of staff is likely to maintain the previous plans.

Q2. Attract new Master's students?

A2. The Dean suggested that Interim Assoc. Dean Garoma and graduate advisors discuss how to attract more new MS students.

Q3. New faculty hiring to consider improvement of the infrastructure of main Engineering building, the College should also highlight faculty's effort on publications, on top of funds?

A3. There are regulatory limitations of the main Engineering building. Interim Assoc. Dean Garoma suggested faculty to update Google scholar database.

Dr. Khaled Morsi motioned to adjourn the meeting and Dr. Satish Sharma seconded the motion, and Dean Olevsky adjourned the meeting at 12:14pm.

Minutes submitted by Dr. Wenwu Xu, February 23, 2021.