



SAN DIEGO STATE
UNIVERSITY

College of Engineering

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING FACULTY MEETING

Minutes of Thursday, October 14, 2021

11:00am-12:00pm

Meeting held via Zoom

Faculty Members Present: Dr. E. Olevsky, Dr. J. Abraham, Dr. R. Akhavian, Dr. B. Aksanli, Dr. T. Alves, Dr. A. Beyene, Dr. M. Capriotti, Dr. L. Demasi, Dr. R. Dowell, Dr. C. Dykstra, Dr. A. Engin, Dr. G. Faraone, T. Garcia, Dr. T. Garoma, Dr. S. Ghanipoor-Machiani, Dr. Q. He, Dr. K. Huang, Dr. J. Kang, Dr. J. Katz, Dr. X. Liu, Dr. S. Manshadi, Dr. K. May-Newman, Dr. C. Mi, Dr. M. Miletic, Dr. F. Miller, Dr. T. Mitropoulos, Dr. N. Mladenov, Dr. K. Moon, Dr. D. Nguyen, Dr. Y. Ozturk, Dr. C. Paolini, Dr. S. Park, Dr. A. Plotkin, Dr. R. Sabzahgar, Dr. M. Sarkar, Dr. I. Sepulveda, Dr. S. Seshagiri, Dr. S. Sharma, Dr. J. Supernak, Dr. H. Tavakol-Davani, Dr. Y. Teh, Dr. H. Toreyin, Dr. S. Venkataraman, Dr. M. Verbyla, Dr. Q. Wang, Dr. J. Xie, Dr. W. Xu, Dr. Y. Yang.

Members Absent: Dr. Z. Nili Ahmadabadi, Dr. A. Alimohammad, Dr. A. Bani Younes, Dr. Z. Bayasi, Dr. R. Betancourt, Dr. A. Bhalla, Dr. S. Bhattacharjee, Dr. J. Camacho, Dr. J. Chen, Dr. G. Jacobs, Dr. A. Jahangiri, Dr. S. Kassegne, Dr. P. Katira, Dr. R. Kline, Dr. P. Lu, Dr. S. Nagaraj, Dr. P. Naseradinmousavi, Dr. N. Nosseir, Dr. M. Ponce, Dr. P. Popov, Dr. E. Torresani, Dr. L. Tummala, Dr. J. Valdes, Dr. K. Wood.

Members Excused: Dr. A. Ashrafi, Dr. A. Kinoshita, Dr. S. Kumar, Dr. K. Morsi, Dr. B. Narang, Dr. G. Youssef.

Staff Members Present: W. Nguyen, M. Sevilla, J. Smitherman.

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

1. Announcements and Engineering Update

Dean Olevsky updated on the following topics:

- Funds raised during last fiscal year are \$6.9M, over the goal of \$6M for FY20/21
- College endowment reached \$23M and 46 endowed funds as of today
- Accumulated cash giving \$500,000 provided by one donor for Rocket Project
- Those endowed funds can be found on website at:
<https://www.engineering.sdsu.edu/giving/endowedfunds.aspx>
- Updates on several development priorities

2. State of the College

Dean Olevsky covered the following topics:

(A) College personal updates

- Welcomed 2 new staff members to college: Melinda Sevilla and Julie Smitherman
- 6 positions were approved by Provost for 2021-22 faculty searches: 2 college-funded (full professors and departmental chairs) funded, and 4 university-funded (assistant professors)

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- Student enrollment update by gender
- Degree programs update
- US news ranking for SDSU College of Engineering is 6 positions up for 2022

(B) Research & Graduate Program update by Dr. Temesgen Garoma

- Update on the first quarter proposal submission, awards, and total dollars
- Historical data sharing in terms of total dollars, and distributions by funding agencies, and federal vs. non-federal sources
- Update on the MS program enrollment, which has been decreasing slightly in the past 4-5 years
- Update on the JDP program enrollment, which reached the record of 63 students
- Update on the engineering JDP excellence fee
- Update on the graduate program fair: Nov 9, 2021, 12-4pm, Scripps Cottage

(C) Undergraduate Program Update by Dr. Yusuf Ozturk

- Enrollment has been declining over the past 4-5 years, e.g., Freshman enrollment has been declining as well. However, trend might be reversed in the next couple of years
- Number of degrees granted is expected to increase when new fewer graduation credits requirement is implemented
- Student success (e.g., grade improvement) in the past year has been improving for URM students, evidenced by several courses' statistics
- Bottleneck class updates reducing DFW rate by providing help to students
- College graduation rates in the past few years has been steady for 5 and 6 years graduation rates, but 4-year graduation rate has been increasing
- Dean Olevsky also updated on the student demographics: by gender, and by ethnicity

(D) Student success and engagement update by Assistant Dean Theresa Garcia:

- Update on the new advising structure (launched in Fall 2021), including peer advisors, major advisors, and faculty advisors
- Upcoming events: October engineering advising month, Career panel series by departments, CoE student council activities

(E) Community & Communication Update

- Update on the activities of the programs of Femineer & Women in Engineering
- Updates on the activities of the MESA program, Troops to Engineers

(F) Update on DEI committees

- Update on the coordinating with department DEI committees
- Focus on the College DEI Goal #2: increasing the enrollment of URM graduate students

(G) CoE important dates:

Fall 2021

- November 5, 2021 (Fri) – 9:00am – 12:00pm – Engineering Dean's Advisory Board Mtg – Virtual
- November 19, 2021 (Fri) – 8:15am – 9:15am – Provost Visit to Engineering – In person
- December 7, 2021 (Tue) – 11:00am – 12:00pm – CoE Faculty Mtg – Virtual
- December 9, 2021 (Thu) – 1:30pm – 2:30 pm – CoE Staff Mtg – Virtual

Spring 2022

- May 5, 2022 (Thu) – 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm – CoE Senior Design Day – Montezuma Hall

Approval of 8/20/2021 CoE faculty meeting minutes: Dr. Sridhar Seshagiri – 1st motion and Dr. Janusz Supernak – 2nd motion; and the minutes were approved at 11:57am.

3. Q&A Session

Q1. Update on ABET visits?

A1. The final outcome will be announced in about 9 months from now.

Dr. Reza Sabzehgar motioned to adjourn the meeting and Robert Dowell seconded the motion, and Dean Olevsky adjourned the meeting at 12:08pm.

Minutes submitted by Dr. Wenwu Xu, October 21, 2021.