COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
May 13, 2009

Present: Richard Brown, Milind Deo, Patrick Tresco, Marilyn Davies, Michael Kay, Rob Macleod (BIO), Geoff Silcox (ChE), Marc Bodson, Anil Virkar, Kent Udell, Martin Berzins, Ajay Nahata, Sandy Bruhn Vicki Jensen

Ex-officio: Ray Levey, Phil Smith

Excused: Rick Rabbitt, JoAnn Lighty, Paul Tikalsky

Dean Brown welcomed Rob Macleod and Geoff Silcox to the meeting representing Rick Rabbitt and JoAnn Lighty, respectively.

Announcements/Updates

Associate VP for Research
Dean Brown reported that Cynthia Furse, Professor of Electrical & Computer Engineering, has been appointed Associate VP for Research. She will do a great job and certainly understands the College of Engineering. The office of VP for Research is putting an emphasis on helping researchers in their pursuit of large proposals.

Differential Tuition
The University Tuition and Fees website shows Differential Tuition being assessed Engineering students this Summer Semester. It was our intent for differential tuition to begin Fall 2009 Semester. Dean Brown contacted the Registrar’s Office regarding this error and a notice will be posted indicating that differential tuition for Engineering is effective Fall 2009 semester.

University Ad Campaign
Ads for the University Campaign have been running on KSL. They are basically aimed at parents and grandparents of prospective students. The ad campaign cost $90,000 which the U is looking to recover from income generated from the increase in student enrollment.

USTAR Proposals
Engineering has done well in receiving funding for USTAR proposals. Engineering faculty were involved in three of the four proposals that were invited to be presented on June 2 to the USTAR Authority: Solar Cells, led by Ling Zang, Professor in MSE; Batteries/Power Conversion, led by Anil Virkar, Professor in MSE; and Catalysis, co-led by JoAnn Lighty, Professor in ChE, in collaboration with Chemistry. Florian Solzbacher, Professor of ECE, and Chuck Hansen, Professor of CS, were also invited to present their existing teams which were initially funded at 50% level.
**USTAR Update**
The Legislature allocated $33M this year in one time money for USTAR. The USTAR authority has decided to use $26M to support faculty teams at the U and USU. $3M will be used to back-fill the outreach effort of USTAR which was cut in this year’s budget. Plans are to take $4M and use it as grants for start-up companies. About half of that would be available to people at the U and USU. Funding may be as large as $100,000.

Dinesh Patel is planning to put a biomedical device prototyping lab at the U. The location may be north of the TCO office in Research Park. Dean Brown commented that we need to make sure that the Bioengineering Department is involved.

**Construction Update**
Construction on the USTAR Building will start soon, beginning with a 20 foot trench down Central Campus Drive. During the day, Central Campus Drive will be reduced to one lane with alternating traffic, then two-way during the off hours. The start of the waterline between Huntsman Cancer Hospital and Mario Cappechi Drive will begin later in May and continue through the summer. An outdoor running track will be built in the Ozone Parking Lot. The parking lot next to the Business building will be lost due to the construction of the new Business building. Temporary parking lots will be built north of the USTAR Building and across Mario Cappechi Drive to make up for lost parking during construction. There is also the hot water project connecting CME, EMRL and the USTAR Building. A left turn signal will be added at the intersection of North Campus Drive to Central Campus Drive. A service road needed during construction will come through the far north parking lot east of central campus drive, but will not be completed until December.

**Reminders**

**Fall Faculty and Staff Meeting**
The annual College Fall Faculty and Staff Meeting will be held on August 21. Nominations for Outstanding Teacher, TA, Staff/Technical Staff, and Service Awards are due June 22. Dean Brown said this is the time to recognize and show appreciation to deserving faculty and staff.

**ENAC**
Marilyn Davies reminded everyone that Friday, May 15, is the ENAC meeting. Shane Robison will be attending, talking about the future of the economy. Unfortunately, Ed Catmull will not be attending as he is on a PR tour in Europe for his new movie, UP.

**Discussion**

**ABET Update**
Milind Deo reported that the chair of the ABET team visiting our College is Cedric Walker, a bioengineer from Tulane University. He was educated at Stanford and Duke, and so should appreciate coming to a high research activity university. The co-chair is Patricia Brakin, from Rose Hollman, which is an undergraduate institution focused on teaching.
Dr. Walker inquired about possible dates for the ABET team visit. Milind asked the chairs/director to look at their September and October calendars and e-mail him dates to avoid. He will then send Dr. Walker dates. The ABET team will arrive on a Sunday, visit on Monday, and wrap-up on Tuesday. There will be a separate evaluator for each department.

Dean Brown thanked Milind for working with the chairs/director and the department ABET specialists to ensure we are prepared for the visit.

**Hill Air Force Base Relationship**

A meeting was planned for this morning between Dr. Davy Belk and a delegation from HAFB and some of our faculty. The meeting was cancelled because Dr. Belk is being transferred to another post and didn’t think a meeting was worthwhile for either him or us. Fortunately Jeannie Hathenbruck who works with him convinced him that his legacy at Hill would be signing the J&A that will fund the URI. The URI agreement would allow Hill to contract with universities in Utah (the U, USU and BYU) for up to $78.5M over a 5 year period. Hill needs more employees with higher degrees in order to facilitate the employees’ advancement in the organization. Dr. Belk wants to have the universities help Hill with these educational needs. The URI would help the universities on the research side. What Dr. Belke wants is a commitment that when we get a URI contract, we will provide education for the people who would work in the area of the URI research project. His eventual goal would be to have classrooms just off of Hill Air Force Base and have faculty from the U, USU and BYU lecture there. Dean Brown said that we will encourage distance education, short courses, etc. as a starting point; these may meet the need.

In place of today’s cancelled meeting, another meeting has been scheduled for Friday, May 15, at Hill to get the URI set up. Tom Parks, VP Research, and Ron Pugmire, Assoc VP Research, will represent the U. As our representatives, they would like to know what teaching commitments the College is willing to make. What do we authorize them to say. After discussion, it was agreed that engineering is open to working with Hill and think it is possible for their employees to get advanced degrees from the U. There is plenty of willingness to teach courses remotely. Dean Brown said there is a lot of software development going on at Hill. This would be a great opportunity for SOC faculty to connect with Hill.

**Convocation Postmortem**

Dean Brown thanked everyone for participating in the Convocation and for the student receptions held in the departments. It was a beautiful day and the Convocation ran smoothly. As is our custom we would like to hear suggestions on how to tune it up. The following suggestions were given:

- A flag for CE is needed like the other departments.
- Make sure departments line up in the correct order.
- Possibly have a reception after convocation for faculty to meet with parents and students.

Next year our Convocation is scheduled for 6:45 pm.
**Budget Update**

Dean Brown and Michael Kay had the College budget meeting with Dave Pershing, SVP for Academic Affairs. They requested support for equity raises for a couple of faculty but these requests were rejected. University administration cannot tell some colleges yes and others no. Otherwise, things went quite well. We are in an enviable position compared to other schools.

Dean Brown’s assumption is that there will be another general tuition increase next year, that will make our budgets, with our differential tuition income, no worse than they were in FY2009. We will continue to hire a few people as the budget allows but we will be cautious because of budget uncertainty.

The TIAB will distribute the $2M Engineering Initiative money received from the Legislature based on the original budgets for the various schools for FY2009 before any cuts and changes were made.

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 pm.