

**MINUTES**  
**UAA College of Engineering Advisory Board**  
**April 21, 2017 at 7:30 am – EIB 413**  
**Anchorage, Alaska**

**1. Welcome, Roll Call and Introductions**

Richard Reich, a former Board Chairman, served as Acting Chairman at Chairman Leman’s request. He called the meeting to order at 7:35 a.m. and welcomed members, staff and guests. Ellie Soto called the roll.

Members Present:, Richard Reich, Melissa Branch, Derek Christianson, Jack Colonell, Pat Coullahan, Bruce Davison, Mark Frischknorn, Virginia Groeschel, James Hemsath, Alex Hills (telephone), Nicole Knox, Boyd Morgenthaler, George Skladal, Michael Todd, Steve Weaver, Paul Brooks, Dan Fawcett, John Lau, Sara Pate, Gregory Schmidt, Jon Zufelt

Members Absent: Loren Leman (Chair, Excused), Jenny Jemison (Vice Chair, Excused)

UAA CoEng Staff and Visitors Present: UA President Jim Johnsen, Acting Chancellor Sam Gingerich, Dean Fred Barlow, Jayna Combs, Kim Riggs, Ellie Soto, UAF CEM Dean Doug Goering, UAF CEMADC Chair Jack Walker, Ann Ringstad, Elizabeth Greer

**2. Board Housekeeping:**

- A. Approval of the Agenda

**MOTION PASSED: Richard Reich presented the proposed agenda prepared by Chairman Leman and Dean Barlow. With no objection the agenda was approved.**

- B. Approval of Minutes – Minor edits to the minutes for our December 2, 2016 meeting were offered.

**MOTION PASSED: With no objection the minutes for the December 2, 2016 meeting were approved.**

**3. Special Order of Business:**

- A. **Chancellor Tom Case** thanked the Board for its continued involvement in assisting UAA and noted this will be his last Board meeting as Chancellor. He is retiring as of the end of June. The Board applauded his service to UAA, both as Dean of Business and as Chancellor.
- B. **Provost Dr. Sam Gingerich** discussed progress with academic programs.
- C. **UA President Dr. Jim Johnsen** spoke about budget challenges and where UA is with legislative funding. Reductions will be substantial. He echoed comments by the previous two speakers about Board support for UAA.
- D. **CoEng Dean Dr. Fred Barlow** shared several recent achievements by CoEng students and Alumni: Nathaniel Cox was awarded prestigious 2017 NSF Graduate Research Fellowship; Dustin Mendoza will be graduating, and has landed a job with Intel; Samuel “Moses” Cragle will be graduating, and has landed a job with Tesla; Steel Bridge team off to competition in Boise Idaho this week; Baja team completed their car and will be competing this month in CA; Robotics Club completed their first robot (Iceberg Robotics)  
<http://www.icebergrobotics.com/home/>; Engineering Deans Excellence Award winners

selected: one from Haines and one from Ketchikan; CoEng Alumni Hall of Fame Inductees – Anne Brooks & Lynda Barber-Wiltse; Step into UAA event occurred on April 7<sup>th</sup>, over 300 students from ASD schools participated and resulted in enrolling roughly 30 new engineering students in a one- hour session

The CoEng is implementing several cost saving measures including: Consolidated CE graduate programs from five to one; Elimination of three certificates (Certificate in Coastal, Ocean and Port Engineering, Certificate in Earthquake Engineering, Environmental Regulations and Permitting Certificate); Currently in the process of eliminating Engineering Management and Science Management degrees with a net effect of 23 programs now reduced to 17. In addition, five tenure track positions have been eliminated and three more tenure track positions will be eliminated by summer of 2018. Other measures include a target of sharing 10 courses between UAF and UAA this Fall and the optimization of faculty work load agreements by looking at teaching loads and justification of research hours.

In addition to cost saving measures, the college is also increasing investment in several key areas including hiring a new K-12 STEM Outreach Coordinator who will be the liaison for all local robotics programs and will organize K-12 outreach activities for the college. This new position will provide better coordination with school districts. A meet and greet will be held on May 3<sup>rd</sup> from 5:30-7:00 pm and all are invited to attend. The college is also investing in new recruiting materials including a post card series, folders, flyers, bumper stickers, revised webpage, social media etc. Three new tenure track faculty hires are also in process: one Mechanical Engineer, one Electrical Engineer and one Computer Engineer.

The implementation of Strategic Pathways continues with several activities: Prepared a detailed inventory of engineering classes at UAA and UAF and developed a draft list of common courses. The leadership teams from both colleges also met on Nov 11, 2016 in Fairbanks to refined common course list, set a long term course sharing target of 10 per semester, set goals and objectives for research collaboration as well as a target for joint research proposals and finalized list of common courses. We had originally planned an additional joint teleconference in January for chairs, but instead chose to hold a joint curriculum committee meeting to finalize common course titles and descriptions. Two challenges remain to date: reuse of course numbers, and class scheduling.

- E. **Sr. Development Officer Jayna Combs** spoke about the importance of giving to the University.
- F. **Student Representative – Co-Chair of the CoEng Student Council** – Report by Udayan Dutta.
- G. **Student-Faculty Project Presentation** - “Surveying and Mapping Mt. Marathon,” presented by students Eric Glaves, Nate Rollin, Murphy Quinn, and Taylor Dosch, supported by Geomatics Assistant Professor John Bean. This senior project touches many positive aspects for mapping, health and safety, training, community service, and contributions by Kodiak Mapping. This year will be the 26th or 28th consecutive time that Board member Bruce Davison will be running the race, so he asked for any advice on routes to improve his time.

#### 4. Old Business

- A. **Extension of Chairman’s Term** – Vice Chair Jenny Jemison’s assignment in Russia has been extended and she is now expecting to be returning in late summer, perhaps in time for

the September meeting. Loren Leman has offered to continue serving until she returns and is able to function as Chair.

**MOTION PASSED: Richard Reich presented the question of the extension of Loren's term before the Board and with no objection the motion passed.**

- B. **Member Updates on the Website** – Please review your capsule resume on the CoEng website and send any updates to Ellie Soto.

**5. Persons to be Heard:**

- A. **UAF College of Engineering and Mines Dean – Dr. Doug Goering** expressed appreciation for collaborative work by the Board and with Dean Barlow. UAF has proposed an innovative funding approach to enable completing ELIF.
- B. **Chair of UAF CEMADC – Jack Walker** will be stepping down as Chairman and will be replaced by Chantal Walsh.

**6. New Business**

- A. **Commendations – Richard Reich** offered two commendations Loren Leman prepared--one for pioneering engineer Frank Nyman and the other for retiring UAA Chancellor Tom Case.

**MOTION PASSED: Richard Reich presented the questions and without objection the two commendations were approved.**

**7. Committee Reports:**

- A. **Engineering Policy** – Boyd Morgenthaler: Working with Dean Barlow on opportunities for collaboration with Anchorage School District, other school districts, and Mat-Su College as well as continuing program coordination with UAF. Opportunity exists for Board members to help develop and facilitate K-12 outreach efforts.
- B. **Facilities** – Kim Riggs. No major changes, just minor punch list items.
- C. **Membership** – Elizabeth Greer is visiting today as a prospective new member.
- D. **Graduate Research** – Jon Zufelt: brief rundown of opportunities.
- E. **Communications** – Melissa Branch: Engineers Week, scholarships, and other activities. Engineering Hall of Fame induction ceremony on April 15 honored Lynda Barber-Wiltse and Anne Brooks.
- F. **UAA/UAF Joint Committee** – Richard Reich: JEAC organization and draft charter are underway. The most recent meeting was on April 14. Please participate in the Engineering Industry Survey at <http://www.alaskaneedsengineers.com/>.

**8. Announcements and Member Comments:**

- A. **Next Regular Board Meeting** – September 8, 2017 in EIB 413
- B. **Dream Big** by ASCE will be showing at the Bear Tooth Theater Pub on April 27 at 3 pm.
- C. **Member Comments**

**9. Meeting Adjournment**

Acting Chair Reich adjourned the meeting at 9:30 a.m.