

# UAA College of Engineering Advisory Board

Friday, September 12, 2014, 7:30 – 9:30 am, Student Union South Cafeteria

Breakfast available by 7:00 am

## AGENDA

**I. Welcome, Roll Call and Introductions:** Chairman Leman called the meeting to order at 7:32 am and welcomed attendees. Academic Admin Asst Dana Collins took roll call.

Attendees: M. Branch, C. Call, D. Christianson, B. Davison, M. Frischkorn, V. Groeschel, J. Jemison, L. Leman, B. Morgenthaler, R. Reich, G. Skaladal, D. Goering, Chancellor Case.

Not in attendance: J. Aho, P. Brooks, J. Colonell, P. Coullahan, D. Fawcett, J. Harriss, J. Lau, S. Pessetto, M. Todd, S. Weaver, J. Zufelt.

**II. Approval of Agenda:** Motion to approve agenda, no objections, and agenda was approved.

**III. Approval of Minutes - April 25, 2014 Meeting** Motion to adopt minutes, no objections, and minutes were approved.

### IV. Special Order of Business:

#### A. Chancellor Tom Case-

- Tom thanked everyone for attending and reiterated the importance of the committee.
- He recognized all the changes that the College of Engineering has gone through recently and thanked Bart Quimby for stepping into the role of Dean on such short notice.
- Tom announced that Beth Rose has decided to go on sabbatical and resign from her current position; however there is a new person in Advancement, Jim Mackenzie doing much of the philanthropy and fundraising that Beth had done in the past.
- Bear Baker will be retiring at the end of December due to family medical issues. He is only serving one week a month until his retirement. Sam Gingrich will be acting as interim provost for 6-9 months depending on the national search.
- UAA has been going through a 19-month process of using a national prioritization model that has been adapted for Alaska. The process has teams across the University (Academic Affairs and Administrative) apply a template that shows alignment with the State of Alaska measures for the University. There are about eight more months of data collecting before anything will be implemented.
- Tom recognized that the Alaska Airlines Sports Center is becoming a popular community center with a lot of positive feedback. There are spaces for student recreation, a restaurant and high tech equipment to help with rehabilitation of athletic injuries.
- BOR has a lot of changes happening and the Governor will be looking for new members. There will be major change to the Board with at least four members replaced during the next year.

#### Questions and Comments:

- On the prioritization process, where was the aspect of long term strategic planning?
  - This process is the lead in to the strategic planning for 2017. This process will help show what is working now and the results can then forecast the next ten years of what may or may not work.
- With the challenge coming up to fill two important positions there is encouragement that as part of the selection process, we provide funding and time to bring the selected person *and* their spouse to Alaska and have them buy in to living here before offering the position. We need to make sure that the family is on board as well as the selected person.
  - Tom Case agreed that it is important to make sure the family is on board as well.

- The importance of having a Dean that is involved in the Alaska Community was identified the Selection Committee shouldn't overlook candidates with Alaska experience. Tom Case agreed that it was important in the College of Engineering Dean position as well as any position at UAA. They plan to look at ways to get the Advisory Board involved to make sure all concerns are being met.
  - Dr. Steve Cobb's role in supporting the Athletic Department was acknowledged and members expressed their condolences on his recent death.
- B. Dean's Report – Dr. Bart Quimby- Power Point Presentation
- i. UAA's participation in Earthquake Conference in Anchorage, July 21-25 (Dr. Utpal Dutta)
  - ii. Prioritization
  - iii. Strategic Planning Update
  - iv. Engineering Dean's Excellence Award List
  - v. Faculty wish list in research and enhancing course delivery
  - vi. BS Engineering split into 3 degrees
  - vii. Alumni Relations
  - viii. Research Update
    - Dept. of Homeland Security Center of Excellence Maritime Research-\$17MM influx of research money over 3-5 years.
    - Applied Environmental Research Center (Army Corps of Engineers)-Most work is going through Colorado State but wanted it to be more regionalized. CoEng gets the first look at projects and is currently working on FUDS (Formally Used Defense Sites).

Questions:

- Currently the general engineering degree draws people in; do you think that separating out the degrees defeats the purpose of why this degree was created?
    - The study that lead to the general engineering degree created this degree with three tracks that are separately accredited and in practice are their own degree. This process is just to finalize the name change to diffuse any confusion with the degree.
  - Will the general degree be phased out once this change occurs?
    - We hope to cancel at the same time the other three degrees. We plan to convince the Board of Regents that they don't need to go to the phase out time period since all students are already in one of the three tracks offered.
- C. Fundraising Update – Bart- recruitment in process.
- D. Student Representative – John Harriss was unable to attend today's meeting.
- E. Student-Faculty Project Presentation
- i. Pain Management Device: Russell Hayes
    - Nicholas Evens and Russell Hayes presented information regarding their Pain Management Device, The Painful Muscle Detection Instrument (PMDI).
    - They had worked with a Doctor in New York who had previously patented an electro neural stimulator device to detect muscle pain.
    - The current methodology is to use palpitation on the suspected muscle which can be inaccurate.
    - The Doctor's device uses electrical stimulation to find the myofascial trigger point that is causing the pain. This sends a uniform electrical signal that causes the damaged muscle to contract.
    - Nicholas and Russell have created a device that works with the doctor's current electro-neural stimulator by calibrating it to detect when the muscle contracts in order to set the minimum voltage necessary in order to diagnose painful muscles.

- Their device uses microphones to hear where the muscle contracts. An average of all the energy that the microphone was receiving was taken in order to find where abrupt changes were happening.
- This technique helped to filter through all the excess noise and give an accurate reading.
- The goal is to move away from the current LED model they are using, to a software based model.

#### **IV. Old Business:**

- A. UA Engineering Buildings Update – Kim Riggs- Power Point Presentation
- B. Legislative Update – Ann Ringstad- Is currently out of state and unavailable.
  - Doug Goering gave an update on the funding request that was taken off the table last year due to the Power Plant project, but they believe funding will go through this year.
  - They need \$30MM to finish the Engineering Building at UAF.
- C. Progress on Chairman’s Challenge:
  - We have made progress. Two areas that need work are our goals of 100% participation in giving and attendance and to have more active committees.
  - Board Endowed Scholarship:  
Opportunity to give to this Scholarship is still available. Terrie Gottstein can be contacted if help is needed.

#### **VI. New Business:**

- A. To be determined

#### **VII. Persons to be Heard:**

- A. Doug Goering, Dean, UAF College of Engineering and Mines:
  - The engineering enrollment at UAF is holding steady and showing a better trend in enrollment than campus wide.
  - UAF is currently getting a lot of transfer students for the petroleum engineering program.
  - In the past four years enrollment for petroleum program has quadrupled and it has been a challenge to keep up with demand.
  - UAF and UAA are working together on joint course enrollment. This should help with the effort not to cancel course offerings.
  - The curtain wall and building envelope are scheduled to be finished by the end of October to make sure the building is enclosed before winter.
  - The base project needs \$30MM and the intent is to sell \$10MM in bonds and the Chancellor agreed to put in \$10MM as well, but they are waiting to see how the Legislature goes before they start selling bonds.
  - The \$10MM is meant to be extra to help with the additional floor that was added to the building plans.

#### **VIII. Committee Reports:**

- i. Engineering Policy – Alex Hills- was unable to attend today’s meeting, no report.
- ii. Facilities – See Kim Riggs presentation
- iii. Membership – John Aho was unable to attend today’s meeting, no report.
  - There is room to add a member, and Jim Hemsath discussed why he would like to be a board member.

- Jim has a BSE in Engineering and has served as a faculty member and was involved on the UAA Alumni Board. He believes we need to move ahead and create a diverse economy and that the College of Engineering will become a key aspect of making that happen. It is his wish to be on the board and influence the direction of the college.
  - Bart mentioned that one of the goals of Board was to make a connection between the program advisory boards and that there should be seats left open on the board for those types of members.
  - It was suggested that because this isn't specifically addressed in the bylaws that instead of making them a board member that they give a spot on the agenda for them to present.
  - It was also suggested that the consideration of updating the bylaws to match the Dean's needs.
  - Jim Hemsath was presented as a prospective member of the committee. Without objection the motion passed.
- iv. Graduate Research - Jon Zufelt was unable to attend today's meeting, no report.
- v. Communications – No Report
- vi. UAA/UAF Joint Committee – Richard Reich did not have anything to report but commented on Ann Ringstad's role in supporting this joint effort.

#### **IX. Announcements and Member Comments:**

A. Next Regular Board Meeting – December 5, 2014

B. Member Comments-

- September 17 at 5:30 pm at the BP Energy Center there is an Open House E-Week prep meeting.
- Suggestion to hold an Alumni Reception at the new restaurant in the Alaska Airlines Center.

#### **X. Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:52 am. An Engineering & Industry Building tour immediately following was led by Kim Riggs.