

# UAA College of Engineering Advisory Board

Friday, December 5, 2014

## Meeting Minutes

- I. Welcome, Roll Call and Introductions** *Chairman Leman called the meeting to order at 7:32am and welcomed attendees. CoEng Executive Assistant, Ellie Soto took roll call.*
- Attendees: J. Aho, P. Brooks, D. Christianson, J. Colonell, P. Coullahan, B. Davison, D. Fawcett, M. Frischkorn, V. Groeschel, A. Hills (Telephonic), J. Jemison, J. Lau, L. Leman, B. Morgenthaler, S. Pessetto R. Reich, G. Skladal, S. Weaver, J. Zufelt
- Not in Attendance: M. Branch (Excused), C. Call (Excused), J. Hemsath (Excused), M. Todd (Excused)
- Ex-Officio & Guests: D. Goering (Telephonic), A. Ringstad and Chancellor Case
- II. Approval of Agenda:** Motion to approve agenda, no objections, and agenda was approved.
- A. Approval of Minutes – September 12, 2014 Meeting:** Minutes were approved with the following edits:
- Spelling error on G. Skladal' s last name
  - "Formally" to be changed to Formerly when referencing "FUD"
  - Dr. Hills was excused and absent at the last meeting
- III. Special Order of Business:**
- A. Chancellor Tom Case**
- Chancellor Case thanked everyone for being here and reported that the Engineering building is 72% on time and on budget. Tom gave an update on the pedestrian bridge that will be constructed as well as the renovation on the current Engineering building to be started by Neeser Construction this summer. The budget for the renovation will be discussed at the next BOR meeting. The Dean's search is coming along well and we are utilizing the company, Academic Search to assist us in the search which is led by consultant, Tom Finch. On December 12<sup>th</sup> there will be a meeting to review the applications, in February there will be initial video/teleconference interviews and on campus interviews will start in March. The Chancellor encourages all members to meet the candidates as they are interviewed on campus. Megan Olson from Advancement is taking care of filling Beth Rose's position as the College of Engineering's designated advancement representative.
- B. Dean's Report – Dr. Bart Quimby (*See attached presentation*)**
- Prioritization & Vision & Website
  - ABET Update & Next Visit
  - Strategic Planning Update
  - Engineering Dean's Excellence Award List
  - New Dean's Search Update
  - Resolution supporting BSE split into 3 degrees
  - Sr. Development Officer recruitment process update and fundraising (room naming availability)
  - Questions and Comments:  
Alex Hill asked about the BSE split. He strongly supports the effort but wanted to be clear that there is no fiscal impact from doing the split. Dean Quimby confirmed that there would be no fiscal impact because it will just be formalizing a process that already exists. He said the only concern he sees is that some people may believe this creates duplication with UAF. Tom Case reiterated that UA is working to reduce unnecessary duplication, but we (UAA) also are working cooperatively with the other campuses to serve the needs of students. Chancellor Case addressed the upcoming prioritization and budget cuts and let the members know that there will be an announcement of a hiring freeze at UAA.
- C. Student Representative – Paul Kelly/Co-Chair of the CoEng Student Council**
- Paul reported that the College of Engineering Club Council had concerns about storage allocation for the engineering clubs and wanted to know about the new Engineering Building and the space available.
  - Virginia asked if the Club Council tour the building to get an idea for space.
- D. Student-Faculty Project Presentation - Dan Aicher presented his MSPM Capstone Project (*See attached presentation*)**
- Dan demonstrated his design and construction of a shelter that weighs one pound three ounces, will go anywhere, and house two occupants. He walked us through his process which involved:

- Patents
- Researching if product already exists
- Marketability
- Evaluate the patentability of the product
- Demand for the product
- Invention
- Fruition
- Research and Development
- Prototype
- Dan then related this project to project management and talked about trials and errors he went through to create his prototype.
- Questions:
  - **Which course was this project for?** PM A686
  - **What did you do with locations that have changing wind patterns?** The tent is dome shaped to aid in shedding wind and has 6-7 points that are designed to vent off the winds. It has been through 40 mph winds with no failing. However, it is designed primarily to shelter from rain, not wind.
  - **What would happen in an extreme wind? Will the tent fly off during assembly?** The tent can be assembled in the wind but it can be difficult. The tent is meant for hunting visibility and protect from rain.
  - **Can this shield the occupant from the sun?** Yes it is adaptable to the environment and can be used to keep the sun and rain off of you. It is not meant to be used as a tent but should be in used in tandem with your tent to help shield you from the rain.
  - His website is allterraincover.com

#### IV. Old Business:

- A. UA Engineering Buildings Update – Kim Riggs (**See attached presentation**)
  - The Dean's office will now be located in the new building. Minor changes to the building are being made to accommodate this.
  - The contract for the furnishings is currently being worked on.
  - A list has been started for needed equipment for the labs but will require the final numbers from the furnishings contract before a budget can be determined.
  - The Engineering on Display is worked into the FFE budget and we are working on getting a faculty champion.
  - A tour will be offered at 9:30am, immediately following the meeting.
  - The parking structure is about 50% complete and construction will continue this coming spring/summer.
- B. Progress on Chairman's Challenge: Deferred by Chairman Leman because of time constraints, but he offered a brief reminder of the importance of financial contributions from individual Board members and involvement in other COE – supporting activities in the community outside of Board meetings.
- C. Board Endowed Scholarship – Bart Quimby mentioned that funding for the scholarship is about \$2,000 short and that much of the support has been from the board members. Chairman Leman suggested that any board members interested in giving please contact Bart Quimby or Terrie Gottstein for help. The pick, click, give campaign was partially matched by Conoco Phillips and was successful for raising funds as well.

#### VI. New Business:

- A. Chairman Leman suggested that the Advisory Board review its Bylaws to add Program Advisory Board Chairs as Ex-Officio Members and invite them attend our meetings. This could mean up to six additional attendees. Chairman Leman suggested this would provide a more formal connection between department advisory councils and our Board.
- B. Resolution of BSE split into 3 degrees: Chairman Leman presented the resolution and it was passed unanimously.

#### VII. Persons to be Heard:

- A. UAF College of Engineering and Mines Dean - Doug Goering
  - Doug expressed his support of Dean Quimby's BSE split and said having strong engineering programs in both locations provides more of a benefit to students and to the engineering field as a whole. This will also serve as a larger benefit to the State.

- Funding for completing the UAF Engineering Building was taken off the table during the last legislative session because of the power plant renewal project. There is hope the building will get the remaining \$30 million funded in the next legislative session. There is a plan in place to continue construction until April with the funds that are currently available.
- UAF has been looking into a Chemical Engineering Degree for at least three years. The initial budget request in 2013 was not moved forward through the president's office. Currently, (Spring 2014) a minor in Chemical Engineering was proposed and then returned back to a BS in Chemical Engineering by the Chancellor's office. A \$400,000 request for additional operating funds to help get the program off the ground has been proposed. There are currently faculty members available to help initiate the program. The program has been carefully designed so that it is fairly portable so some of it can be delivered effectively by distance.
- WSU visited in June 2014 and UAF is trying to put together a shared chemical engineering program with their College. It is proving to be difficult but there is a lot progress with sharing the program throughout Alaska.
- Doug addressed budget cuts and programs on the prioritization list. The programs listed were those of low enrollment. The initial list of programs up for review are many of their master's degrees.
- Scott Hamel is currently teaching a course with a UAF student involved. There is hope to share more courses with UAA directly and have joint enrollments
- UAF is facing at least a 5% budget cut next year which could translate to several faculty positions. Due to this situation they are looking into replicating the School of Management and their differential tuition rate to offset the high cost of their courses. This could raise from \$400k-\$600k for the College of Engineering and Mines.
- Doug reiterated the importance of collaboration and how this can continue to have a very strong impact. He invited our board members to join their Advisory Council at its upcoming meeting in January.
- Chairman Leman offered his condolences to the College regarding the tragedy of the engineering student who died in an accidental shooting.

#### B. Chair of UAF CEMADC - Bryan Clemenz, P.E.

- Chairman Leman invited Bryan Clemenz, who recently replaced Pete Stokes as Chair, to offer comments. He thanked everyone for the support on the Engineering building here in Anchorage and in Fairbanks. He encouraged everyone to continue to support engineering here and at UAF. He invited everyone to a joint meeting on January 23<sup>rd</sup> in the Chancellors conference room from 7:30 to 10am to talk about UAF and UAA collaboration. The meeting is on a Friday therefore the parking will be free.

#### C. Legislative Update – Ann Ringstad

- Ann thanked everyone for participation in the joint effort and said it has raised a lot of positive awareness.
- UAF needs \$31.3 million to finish the UAF building. A \$10 million bond was offered by Chancellor Brian Rogers. There is an initiative to raise \$6 million to build out the fourth floor for the Alaska Center of Energy and Power and UAF is asking industries and businesses to step up and support this project.
- Ann asked for support during the upcoming legislative session. The Alaska Needs Engineers website is still up and will be updated with current information. There will be an opportunity for public testimony on December 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> at the Board of Regents meeting. She would like to have a couple attendees to come and say thank you.
- There are currently a few initiatives in the operating capital budget and there is a request for \$400k in general fund to support the Chemical Engineering Program as well as industry support and tuition support. There is a rare earth minerals research project for \$150k with a match of 150k from the industries, a request for \$3 million Alaska Center for Energy and Power for a micro grid project has also been made.
- Questions: Can you give us a review of funding for the Power Plant? Overall it took \$232 million and it was a combination of State dollars and a couple of other packages to make it work. Ground has been broken and permits have been acquired. All the funding has been finalized so it should be going through.
- The impact from the falling price of oil was discussed. Chairman Leman said he was at recent oil and gas meeting to expect prices below \$60 a barrel for the foreseeable future.
- Chairman Leman reiterated the importance of attending the BOR meeting to say thanks as well as the upcoming joint meeting in January.

### VIII. Committee Reports:

- ❖ Engineering Policy – Alex Hills
  - The committee has been actively participating in the

process of finalizing the strategic plan. Alex was also personally involved in the Central Strategic Planning Steering Committee as well. Alex Hills will continue to serve on this committee but requested that he be replaced as chair. Chairman Leman named committee member Boyd Morgenthaler as the new Chair.

- ❖ Facilities: No separate report
- ❖ Membership – John Aho
  - Current bylaws allow 25 members and we have only 23 members. John proposed that Sara Pate be considered as a member to take the place of Scott Pessetto when he steps down. Approval of new members will be considered during the next meeting. President of Exxon, Karen Hagedorn, is an applicant to be considered as a new member. An invite to our next meeting will be extended to each applicant.
  - A membership list needs to be sent out following this meeting that includes all contact information.
  - Website will need to be updated with current photos of each member.
- ❖ Graduate Research - Jon Zufelt
  - Jon talked about his previous meeting and what was discussed. The mission statement and goals were reviewed and modified, with some of the language to put more emphasis on community participation. Some research projects are being highlighted by Dr. Aaron Dotson's pdh symposiums on Tuesdays. These are very informative. *The Alaska Dispatch Weekly* has the University Happenings which gives a lot of up to date information as well. Joey Yang has also had a few papers submitted to the Cold Regions Engineering.
  - Jon would like to get the word out about current research and suggested the website be more prominent and highly promote the opening of the new building. Bart Quimby confirmed that the College of Engineering has plans to promote and highlight the new building.
  - Comments: Tuesdays at 12 noon Dr. Aaron Dotson hosts a professional development hour series and if there is a topic you would like to talk about please contact Aaron or Chairman Leman to be a part of these series.
- ❖ Communications
- ❖ UAA/UAF Joint Committee – Richard (***See attached report***)
  - Comment: CoEng should be used for the College of Engineering to avoid confusion with COE that is already in use by the College of Education.
  - Chairman Leman will either offer testimony in person or write a letter to be submitted to the BOR for its upcoming meeting regarding the BSE resolution.

**IX. Announcements and Member Comments:**

**A.** Next Regular Board Meeting – Friday April 24, 2015 at our normal meeting time

**B.** Member Comments

- John Aho mentioned the Earthquake Engineering Conference hosted by Alaska in July with 1,400 people in attendance. This was considered by many to be the most successful of these regular engineering conferences \$60k was raised by the Local Planning Committee to support the conference and its “extracurricular” activities.
- Martin Cenek, a faculty member from the Computer Science & Engineering Department mentioned a conference this upcoming summer for chemical engineering with speakers from Hungary, Germany and Denmark to cover a broad range of topics. He asked if any industry members wanted to attend or participate, to please contact him.
- Chairman Leman commented that Virginia Groeschel was chosen as one of three alumni of distinction and was honored in a banquet ceremony hosted by UAA earlier in the Fall. She was recognized as an emerging leader. He also mentioned that there are room naming opportunities for the new building if anyone is interested.

**X. Adjournment:**

- ❖ *Meeting was adjourned at 9:57am and the building site visit followed.*