

UAA College of Engineering Advisory Board

Friday, April 25, 2014

Location: Student Union, South Cafeteria

Meeting Minutes

I. **Welcome and Introductions**

Loren Lemman called the meeting to order at 7:32 am.

Roll call was conducted by Administrative Assistant Keri Shoemaker.

Attendees: Board Members John Aho, Melissa Branch, Catherine Call, Derek Christianson, Bruce Davison, Dan Fawcett, Mark Frischkorn, Virginia Groeschel, Alex Hills, John Lau, Loren Lemman, Boyd Morgenthaler, Richard Reich, Scott Pessetto, George Skladal (telephonic), Michael Todd, and Jon Zufelt. Guests Doug Goering, Ann Ringstad, Tom Case, TC Jen, Bart Quimby, Beth Rose and Kim Riggs.

Absent: Paul Brooks, Jack Colonell, Pat Coullahan, Anthony “Tony” Follett, John Harriss, Jenny Jemison and Steve Weaver.

II. **Approval of the Agenda**

Richard Reich moved and John Aho seconded that the agenda presented be approved. No objection, motion carried.

III. **Approval of Minutes**

Richard Reich moved and Jon Zufelt seconded to approve December 13, 2013 minutes. No objection, motion carried.

IV. **Special Order of Business**

A. Chancellor Case presented his report:

- Due to a family emergency, Provost Baker was unable to attend today’s meeting.
- Chancellor’s summary is that things in Engineering are in good shape. Thanked the Advisory Board members for their engagement with UAA and UAF. Thanked Dean Jen, faculty and staff for their wonderful job and looking into the future.
- In support of the CoEng Strategic Planning committee and their progress
- Pleased with the progress with construction of the new engineering building. Funding was received so will be able to build the new skybridge for connection to Health Sciences Building and improve safety for pedestrians.
- Doubling efforts to address behavioral issues as being brought up by the media sensation. Do not be discouraged.
- In detailed dialogue with Municipality of Anchorage regarding parking options.
- Safety and security are high on attention list. Steadily increasing emergency stations through campus. Actively working on emergency notification.

B. Provost: Unable to attend, due to family emergency.

C. Dean’s Report (TC Jen):

- Pleased with progress made in the last year. Thanked Advisory Board for its hard work.

- Enrollment has grown: 268 students enrolled in CE, 258 in ME, 242 in CS&E, 143 in EE, 87 undeclared, 70 in ESPM, and 69 in Geomatics. Mechanical and Electrical engineering are the fastest growing departments. Within the College enrollment and credit hours are very healthy.
- Research expenditure has increased by 130% over the last three years. We jumped from \$950k to \$1.6MM. Would like to appoint new Associate Dean of Research & Graduate Programs in the near future. Over the next few years, emphasis will be on research as it is one of our weaknesses.
- Strategic Planning: consists of two committees, the Steering Committee (CoENG leaders: oversee and coordinate the process. They also document Strategic Plan) and Planning Committee (broad stakeholder participation, advise to develop the strategic plan). Next meeting is May 2. Strategic choices consist of four parts: resources, stakeholders, internal process, and human capital. Currently the Strategic Planning Committee has formulated a vision, mission and core values. There will be a college-wide meeting on August 22 for faculty and staff to approve the Strategic Plan. And even when formulated, it will be considered a working document.
- TC discussed in detail:
 - Vision: Inspired by Alaska's unique blend of traditions and frontier spirit, we excel as a globally recognized education, research and service institution that is rooted in Alaska and relevant to the world.
 - Core Values: Innovation: we search for and welcome diversity of ideas and act as leaders for positive change. Collaboration: We focus on the common good through teamwork, collegiality and partnership to make valuable contributions to our internal and external communities. Excellence: We aspire to greatness and continuous improvement.
 - Mission: The UAA College of Engineering develops leaders in engineering, project management and technology who solve critical problems and explore opportunities to benefit Alaska and beyond through education, research and service.
- Making CoEng a center for academic excellence. Committed to recruiting top faculty and students. Currently conducting a global recruitment for five faculty positions. Creating a great place to work and learn. A new Engineering Dean's Excellence Award: 4-year recruitment and retention scholarship to keep our best and brightest students in Alaska. First awardees have been selected.
- CoENG is hosting Summer Engineering Academies for middle and high school students, grades 6-12, generously sponsored by BP. Consists of week-long topic and age-specific session taught by Engineering faculty, runs June 9-August 8 on the UAA campus. On-line registration April 7-May 2.
- Engaged in our community: growing future engineers through faculty and alumni outreach. Engineering faculty offer presentations at local school and actively mentor younger students through engineering competitions. There is a newly established UAA Engineering Alumni Chapter. It sponsors monthly alumni STEM presentations at Lake Hood Elementary School. Currently developing a mentoring program for high school and undergraduate students.
- Frontiers of Earthquake Engineering: 10th U.S. National Conference on Earthquake Engineering will be here in Anchorage on July 21-25, hosted by Earthquake

Engineering Research Institute (EERI), with many local sponsors. UAA is actively involved in this conference.

- Gave acknowledgment to Alex Hills for his Honorary Doctor of Letters from UAA. Jon Zufelt was honored in the Congressional record for his 30 years of work with Corps of Engineer's Engineer Research and Development center's Cold Regions Research & Engineering Lab.

D. Fundraising Update (Beth Rose):

- Advisory Board has given pledges of more than \$18k since last Board meeting. Goal is to have 100% Board participation. Both Beth and TC have also made pledges, to bring the total to \$26k.
- Engineering Dean's Excellence Award: We have \$16k here and another \$56k in pledges, for a total of \$72k committed, which equals six awards. We currently have three students committed to receive this award.
- Summer Engineering Academy: BP gave \$90k for the academies this year. First time there is a nominal fee of \$100.
- Talking with companies and individuals to fund lab equipment for the new building.
- Outreach: There will be hardhat tours of the new Engineering building. One today immediately after the meeting. Future tours will be on Friday afternoons at 3:30. Next tour will be May 9.

E. Student representative: Absent

F. Student-faculty presentation: Dr. Osama Abaza and Patricia Rowse, student, 2014 Senior Design: Northern Access to U-Med.

- The northern access through U-Med District has been identified as a necessity.
- Improve mobility, safety, and accommodate projected traffic growth
- Public involvement: community meetings, campus meetings, public meetings, project website, stakeholder meetings
- Public concerns: noise, environment, speed corridor and trails
- Crossing type selection: overpass and signaled crosswalk
- Cost Estimate: \$23.1 million.

V. **Old Business**

A. Engineering Facilities Update (Kim Riggs):

- Status of Construction: Structural core and shell complete. Exterior metal siding in progress. Concrete poured on all floors. Grinding on first floor to begin next month. Interior wall framing in progress. GWB started on fourth floor. Electrical connection to ML&P in May. Civil site work to begin this summer
- Pedestrian Sky Bridge: Connects 3rd floor of EIB to 2nd Floor of HSB. Sides are floor-to-ceiling high transparency glass.
- Existing Engineering Building: design workshop held on April 15-16. Planned start in summer 2015. Projected completion summer 2016. Priorities: shop space, instructional labs, computational spaces, office spaces
- Parking Structure: Contract award and project start in summer 2014

B. Legislative Update (Ann Ringstad):

- Session not over. Funding for UAA Engineering Building has been provided. Also authority to raise private funds.
- One more letter to Legislature (thank you) and one more letter to the Governor (retain in budget).

- House Bill 306: passed, but looking at it being repealed in December 2018
 - Letter suggestions can be found on: <http://www.alaskaneedsengineers.com/>
 - C. Progress on Chairman's Charge:
 - Thanked everyone for their advocacy
 - Ongoing challenge is the Bylaws review
 - D. Board Endowed Scholarship:
 - Consensus is the Board supports but does not want to commit Board members to it.
- VII. **Persons to be Heard**
 - A. Doug Goering, UAF CEM Dean: Thanked everyone for their efforts in project completions. Progress is resuming for the UAF Building. UAF received a small appropriation for the building, because of the very large appropriation for the power plant. Enough cash in pipeline to keep building project going until about next year. Working on collaboration with course schedules.
- VIII. **Committee Reports:**
 - a. Engineering Policy: working with Strategic Planning Committee
 - b. Facilities: No additional report
 - c. Membership (John): 23 members, openings for 2. Two people have expressed interest. Send John Aho brief resume material and expression of interest in writing
 - d. Graduate Research: no report
 - e. Communications: No report, need new chair
 - f. UAA/UAF Joint Committee (Richard Reich): Revisited the 2005 UA Engineering Review Task Force Study Summary and Recommendations.
- IX. **Announcements and Member Comments**
 - A. Next Regular Board Meeting - Friday, September 12, 2014, Location TBD
 - B. Member Comments:
 - Bart Quimby: Orson Smith is retiring in May 2014, working on Emeritus application. Anyone interested in writing a letter in support please contact Bart within the next week.
 - Alex Hills: CE presentation in the Library
- X. **Adjournment**

Loren adjourned the meeting at 9:40 am. Engineering & Industry Building hard hat tour followed.