

# UAA School of Engineering Advisory Board

Friday, September 13, 2013

Location: Student Union, South Cafeteria

## Meeting Minutes

### I. **Welcome and Introductions**

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

Roll call was conducted by Executive Assistant Ellie Soto.

Board Members Attendees: John Aho, Paul Brooks, Pat Coullahan, Derek Christianson, Bruce Davison, Dan Fawcett, Anthony Follett, Mark Frischkorn, Alex Hills, John Lau, Loren Leman, Boyd Morgenthaler, Richard Reich, Michael Todd, Steve Weaver, Jon Zufelt.

Absent: Catherine Call, Jack Colonell, Jenny Jemison (out of town) and Jeff Staser.

### II. **Guests and Announcements**

Loren Leman introduced himself as the new Chair for the SoE Advisory Board

- Ground-Breaking Ceremony will follow the board meeting;
- Welcomed special guest from UAF Advisory Board – Peter Stokes;
- Welcomed Chancellor Tom Case, Provost Bear Baker was unavailable due to traveling;
- Welcomed new SoE Dean TC Jen.

### III. **Approval of the Agenda**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the meeting agenda. Motion was amended and approved.

### IV. **Approval of Minutes**

### V. Meeting minutes for the April 26, 2013 SOEAB Meeting were approved. **Special Order of Business**

#### A. Chancellor Case presented his report:

- Thanked the SoE Advisory Board, Peter, Ann, Doug, and Brian, highlighting how they linked arms in joint advocacy, as we celebrate the ceremonial ground-break today, recognized the successful partnership and cooperative efforts.
- Thanked board members for their role for making it happen for us by helping in to shape our UAA/UAF Engineering Programs, and advocating to the legislators, donors and others.
- Construction of the new engineering building is up and running. The design includes eventual construction of a skybridge and parking garage. We chose to get the classrooms, labs and the main project to get done first.
- Enrollments are growing, with engineering growth as our bright, shining star in terms of numbers. COE and COH are also big growth areas.

#### B. Dean's Report (TC Jen):

- TC discussed the bi-weekly updates he sends out to SoE staff, faculty and advisory board members to keep everyone in the loop.
- TC's mission is to take SOE to another level, built on the cornerstones of research and fundraising.

- TC is submitting a name change request to go from the School of Engineering to the College of Engineering. Schools generally have smaller numbers of students and faculty. In the past year, the SoE has incorporated Computer Science, and an increasing number of medical school applicants and partnerships to take it in the direction of a multiple discipline organization, presenting another argument to move from a School to a College. The change may occur as soon as the next academic year.
  - In his PowerPoint presentation, TC discussed SoE school standards, went over the 2012-2013 data profile, confirmed that student numbers have grown, and discussed the new building and the improvement of research funding and progress.
  - The ABET accreditation visit went well; next visit is in 2016.
  - A Master's Graduate Program for Mechanical Engineering was approved.
  - With Beth's assistance, we are trying to establish scholarship funds to promote keeping our undergraduate and graduate students in Alaska.
  - The BP Corrosion Lab is up and running with several active projects.
  - TC discussed some of his Visions for SoE:
    - Form a SoE Strategic Planning Committee:
    - Become a globally prominent engineering research and education institution, by making the SoE the best place to work;
    - Improve external funding for research and lab equipment for the new building;
    - Conduct a better effort in marketing our school; we are currently #34 nationwide;
    - Regular one-on-one meetings with staff and each Department Chair to identify expectations to programs run smoothly programs and make SoE better.
- C. SoE Senior Development Officer (Beth Rose):
- Discussed the high standards TC has set for fundraising and his vision for the ENGR School.
  - TC's #1 priority is scholarships to attract high level graduating high school students to remain in Alaska and attend UAA. She presented an overview of steps for recruiting and working with middle and high school students to prepare them to attend UAA and make them aware of opportunities for scholarships.
  - She discussed some of the marketing information packets, the factsheet, the overview of fundraising priorities and lab equipment for the new building.
- D. Student representative:
- TC will assign an engineering student to be the new representative to the SOEAB.
- E. Student-faculty presentation: Not available for this meeting.
- F. SoE Facilities Manager (Kim Riggs):
- Kim provided an update and status report on construction funding for the Engineering Building, including a PowerPoint presentation with a rendering of the building—including the future Skybridge connecting the new building to the Health Sciences Building, and future campus landscaping after building completion. The Skybridge is a separate project with separate funding roughly estimate at \$4M.
  - Construction began in May, and the building is currently on budget and on schedule. Projected completion is scheduled for Fall 2015, with moving in slated around that time, and classes likely starting in Spring 2016.
  - Overall budgeted cost of just the building is about \$78M, and we have received about 65% of the overall funding for Phase One. Funding still to be received is just enough to complete the building, but we will need additional funding for the furnishings and

equipment. Additional funding for the remaining portion of Phase One includes the parking structure and renovation of the existing building. Parking structure design is complete, with four levels of parking and almost 500 parking spaces; it will require realignment of Mallard Drive, and funding of \$28M. Assuming we get funding for the parking structure, construction would start at end of Fall 2014, and take about a year to construct.

- Total cost for Phase One is \$123M, \$78M for building, \$28M for Parking and \$17M for Renovation. The new building is approximately 80,000 sq. feet, and current building is about 40,000 sq. feet.
- There is a live Webcam on the Facilities website, available 24-7.

G. Legislative Update (Ann Ringstad):

- Thanked everyone for advocating for funds for the new UAF and UAA engineering buildings.
- Gave an update on UAF's building construction; groundbreaking is scheduled for March 30<sup>th</sup>.
- There is still \$80M dollars remaining that we need to get. This last year we requested \$109M from the Legislature. They supply full funding, but gave us \$30M in bridge funding. The legislature may hesitate once again to give us the full amount, and they may either allocate some bridging funds again, or put it on a general obligation bond for voters to approve on next November.

H. Advisory Board Chair (Loren Leman):

- This is a team sport. All of us need to participate to make this work through
  - **Advocacy:** Continued advocacy for E&I Building completion.
  - **Support:** Support the Dean regarding faculty staffing; maintain ABET accreditation; identify new programs to meet marketplace needs; student recruitment; laboratory equipment & supplies; scholarships.
  - **Administrative:** Link the various department advisory councils with our Advisory Board; draft minutes within 2 weeks; update webpage; possible bylaws revisions; meetings done by 9:30 am.
  - **Challenge:** Active participation by members.
    - Full subscription (25)
    - Attendance at meetings (90%); get excused if necessary
    - Everyone engaged in committee work, report to Advisory Board
    - Contributing financially in an amount meaningful to you (100% giving of SOEAB)
    - Participate in activities outside our regular meetings in support of SOE—as classroom speaker, panel member for Intro to Engineering, teach PDH class for Dr. Aaron Dotson's weekly seminar series, Engineers Week, tutor MathCounts, Engineering Academies, consult on a Capstone project, mentor a student club, attend Engineers Friday Night event.

VI. **Old Business**

A. Committee reports

- Engineering Policy Committee: Jeff/ Chair, Alex, Dan, Boyd and Pat agreed to be a part of this committee.
- Facilities: Steve Weaver/Chair, no updates.

- Graduate Research: John Zufelt/Chair and Vice Chairman of the SoE Advisory Board, Derek, Tony agreed to be a part of this committee.
- Communication/Development/Industry Relations: Ann Brooks was the Chair and is no longer with us. Beth will become a part of this committee. It was mentioned that Catherine Call was also part of the Communications Committee.
- UAA/UAF Joint Committee: Richard is part of this committee and will continue to serve. Doug provided a brief past history. The last joint meeting of the UAF/UAA Joint Advisory Board Members will be held in January.

VII. **Persons to be Heard**

- a. Doug Goering, UAF CEM Dean: Personally welcomed Dean Jen to UAA; UAF's engineering enrollment is looking good, with roughly about a 10% overall increase in new students coming into the program. Among those, there was a 50% increase in incoming UA Scholars.
- b. John Aho - Membership: Melissa Branch, Virginia Groeschel, Dan Fawcett and George Skladal were voted in as SoE Advisory Board members.

VIII. **Next Meeting**

- A. Regular Board Meeting - Friday, December 13, 2013 at the Commons, Room #107
- B. Future Board Meetings - Friday, April 26, 2013 & Friday, August 23, 2013 – venues to be determined

IX. **Adjournment**

Loren adjourned meeting at 9:30 am. UAA Ground-Breaking Ceremony for the Engineering Building followed.