

# UAA School of Engineering Advisory Board

Friday, September 28, 2012

Location: Student Union, Lyla Richards Room 103

## Meeting Minutes

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

Richard Reich called meeting to order at 7:32 am.

Roll call was done by Executive Assistant Ellie Soto.

#### Attendance included:

Advisory Board Members: Chairman Richard Reich, John Aho, Catherine Call, Derek Christianson, Jack Colonell, Bruce Davison, Anthony Follett. Tom Gill, Mikal Hendee, Alex Hills, John Lau, Loren Leman, Boyd Morgenthaler, Scott Pessetto, Jon Zufelt.

Others in attendance included: Orson Smith, Ann Ringstad, Doug Goering, Kim Riggs, Bill Hazelton, Anthony Paris, Tom Livingston, Paul Daugherty, John Hanson, Sam Siewert, Martin Cenek, Crickett Watts, Beth Rose, Bobi Rinehart.

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

Parking Permits distributed

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

A motion was made and seconded to approve meeting agenda. Under "Old Business," John Aho requested to be heard. Motion was approved and amended.

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

Meeting minutes for the April 27, 2012 SOEAB Meeting was approved and seconded.

### V. **Special Order of Business**

A. Interim Dean Orson presented his report

- 2012: Computer Science combined with Computer Systems Engineering to form new SOE Department of Computer Science and Engineering
  - i. 3 veteran faculty joined SOE from CAS + 1 CSE faculty; 3 new faculty started in fall 2012 for 7 total in Dept
- 40 full time faculty in SOE; up from 31 this time last year (29% increase); plus new staff hires
  - ii. Ghulam Bham – New civil engineer faculty: transportation specialist
  - iii. Ganhua Lu – New mechanical engineer faculty: joining in January 2013
  - iv. Matthew Kupilik – New electrical engineer faculty: joining in January 2013
  - v. Martin Cenek – new computer science faculty; complex systems specialist
  - vi. Randy Moulic – new computer systems engineer faculty; veteran of IBM, with EE background
  - vii. Sam Siewert – New computer systems engineer faculty
  - viii. Jeff Hollingsworth – new Geomatics faculty; broad background including hydrographic surveying
  - ix. Bart Quimby – veteran civil engineer faculty; rejoined SOE as Associate Dean, from recent assignment in Provost's Office
  - x. Kim Riggs – Facilities Manager, following engineering career in US Air Force, including overseas assignments

- xi. 21 Adjunct instructors; 75 student employees; 12 paid grad research assistants
  - SOE headcount 1175; increase from last year mainly due to reassignment of computer science students; enrollment is down a little across UA
    - xii. Last May 111 degrees awarded by UAA SOE: 67 BS, 35 MS, plus certificates
  - List provided of 28 labs planned for new building and renovated existing building; budget does not cover equipment \$½ - \$1 million per lab
  - New building update: John Hanson, UAA Facilities, Paul Daugherty and Tom Livingston of Livingston-Slone
    - i. Design of new building has advanced to choice of fascia, window design, colors, and landscaping choices
    - ii. Parking garage CMR process underway (Construction Manager at Risk); good firms, familiar with CMR process, are proposing
      - 1. Current funding is sufficient to complete garage in 2013, complete new building design, plus begin site preparation for new building
      - 2. Discussion at ongoing Regents meeting in Juneau, involving location, design, and traffic pattern of garage, threatens approval, which could delay entire engineering building project
    - iii. New building will use design-bid-build process
    - iv. Phase I (current project) is designed only to satisfy undergraduate teaching needs and does not address graduate teaching or research
    - v. Phase II, proposed connection to Phase I, is required to satisfy current and future needs for expanding graduate studies and increasing research success of a growing SOE faculty
  - Dean search update:
    - Beth Rose reported that 10 candidates will be interviewed off campus in Anchorage prior to selection of final candidates
    - Following discussion of concern for SOEAB input to selection process, Boyd Morgenthaler agreed to represent Board to Provost and to get involved in the selection
    - Orson stated that he was advised by the Provost to be prepared to stay in the role of Interim Dean throughout this academic year, presumably since Dean candidates currently in academic positions may not be able to report until summer
- B. UAA Advancement (Beth Rose)
- Roberta (Bobi) Rinehart introduced as new member of UAA Development staff assigned to School of Engineering development
  - New building comes with significant opportunities for naming of labs and other spaces, even the entire building; a concerted campaign is taking shape to raised donations for the new building
- C. Student representative (Tom Gill)
- Tom spoke of outstanding needs of engineering student organizations, such as ASCE, IEEE, and EWB, for faculty advisors and financial support
  - He requested that School instructors allow brief announcements of student organization events during class time
- D. Legislative Update (Ann Ringstad)
- Efforts of Board members to win legislative approval of ½ new building funds last session were outstanding

- Support this year will be even more necessary with new legislators representing new districts
  - Regents may this year include new engineering buildings in their budget request, rather than just acknowledge the need as last year
  - UAA/UF Joint Engineering Advisory Council Meeting scheduled for **January 25, 2013**.
  - **December 4, 2012, UAA Legislative Open House**; Legislators, SOEAB, and community leaders will be invited to tour existing facilities and hear of needs, plus new building plans
- E. Student-faculty presentation: Dr. Aaron Dotson, and Kaitlin Rodriguez presented study of wastewater treatment options for Girdwood

VI. **Old Business**

A. Committee reports

Most committees have been inactive in the last year; some need new members as former leaders have resigned from Board; handout of most recent membership and committee charges

- Engineering Policy: no report
- Facilities: no report, though Steve Weaver's participation in new building design conferences was noted
- Membership
  - John Aho reported 21 members presently on roles; up to 4 new members could be invited
  - Some members do not have appointment letters
    - New requirement for background check delayed letters; process is not understood
    - New appointment letters should be issues as soon as possible
  - Graduate Research (Jon Zufelt): no committee actions to report, though recent increase in UAA engineering publications noted
  - Communications: no report
  - UAA/UF Joint Committee: discussion about have a joint meeting of Boards in January; exact date and place to be determined
  - Development Committee: Loren Lehman agreed to join and to lead committee this year
  - Loren distributed cards encouraging SOEAB member gifts to UAA/SOE

VII. **Persons to be Heard**

- a. Doug Goering, UAF CEM Dean: noted small enrollment reduction; about 100 degrees awarded last year; new building using CMR process – contractor already selected
  - b. John Aho: Earthquake Engineering Conference to be held in Anchorage July 2014; sponsors needed
- Engineering Policy Committee: Has a Chair, no updates.

VIII. **Next Meeting**

- A. Regular Board Meeting - Friday, December 7, 2012, venue to be determined
- B. Future Board Meetings - Friday, April 26, 2013 & Friday, August 23, 2013 – venues to be determined

IX. **Adjournment**

Richard adjourned meeting at 10:02 am.