

Geomatics Advisory Board

Engineering & Industry Building, Rm 413

Friday, September 23, 2016, 8:30a-10:00a

Minutes: Sandra Medina, GEO Admin

1. Call to Order- 8:30am

2. Welcome and Introductions

3. Roll Call

Attended:

Nathan Wardwell, Tom Newman, Terri Morganson, Paul Brooks, Steve Buchanan
John Koltun, Jennifer Dowling, Stan Moll, Bill Preston, Isaiah Ditmer, Don Davis (guest)
Caixia Wang (UAA), John Bean (UAA), Jeff Hollingsworth (UAA), Gennady Gienko
(UAA), Dean Barlow (UAA).

Excused Absences:

Eric Gabrielson, Michael Schoder, Jeff Yates, Jim Sharp

Unexcused Absences:

Steve Schmitt, Brian Gutzwiller, Kevin Quinn

4. Approval of and changes to Agenda

Terri motioned to add “senior projects” to agenda. Paul motioned to approve. Steve 2nd. Approved.

5. Approval of minutes from February 15, 2016 meeting.

Steve motioned to approved minutes, Paul 2nd. Approved.

6. New Business: Dean Fred Barlow: CoENG Update

- a) Strategic Pathways Update: UA received a 14% cut this year. Phase 1 of Strategic Pathways is completed. Engineering received a positive outcome from the review. Engineering will get a five-year reprieve and focus on collaborating with UAF. More shared classes, same curriculum, and same catalog. More information on Phase one and Strategic Pathways information is available at: <http://alaska.edu/pathways/>

b) Q &As:

Q: Are EE, ME, CS full BS degrees? A: Yes. EE and MS are Bachelors of Science degrees. CS has a Bachelor’s of Arts and Bachelors of Science degrees and CSE a Bachelor’s of Science degrees. A Bachelor’s of Science in Engineering still being offered for the students currently enrolled in the degree. New admission to the BS Engineering.

Q: Is there a better way to track Alumni? Prior attempts have been unsuccessful. A: This is important not only at the department level, but at the college level as well. An option would be do conduct an “Exit Group Interview” at the department level. Collect their contact information, job offers, etc. Getting information while they are still students is viable. Once they graduate, it becomes much harder to track.

Q: How much focus should we put on Strategic Pathways moving forward? Support? A: We need to stay on top of it. This will come back and we will need industry support and support from the Advisory Boards members.

Q: Will students taking Natural Resources courses at UAF be able to get GIS credits at UAA? A: We are working on it but it will be challenging. Right now, we have six shared

courses in other Engineering disciplines, i.e. ME & CE, it will be harder for GEO courses but we will talk about it.

Q: What percent of our budget is labor? A: Ninety-three percent. We are not firing any new faculty. Instituted differential tuition this fall for all engineering classes. We are all responsible for student enrollment. We need to keep the student head count up. We need to improve our marketing and we are working on it.

Q: Why do so many of our graduates leave the state? A: Jobs. Young people want to see the rest of the country. Jobs and education need to be here. Education needs to be market well. Community perception is lagging. We have top-notch facilities and faculty and we need to market them.

7. Old Business

- a) Geomatics Department Update: See handout for more information. There are a number of undeclared students in our program. Faculty is pushing these students to declare their major. Due to budget cuts, there will be no tuition waivers this year. We need more financial support from private industries.
- b) ABET visit: The ABET teams will arrive on Saturday, October 15 We will meet with them on Sunday, October 16. They have received our Self-Study but have not requested additional information. An agenda to meet with the ABET team is being worked on by the Deans office (Ellie Soto). No problems anticipated during the accreditation. Kudos to Jeff Hollingsworth for coordinating this process.
- c) Equipment: New facilities. We now have a surveying lab. Two new scanners.
- d) John Bean is the GSA adviser. This GSA group is very enthusiastic and eager to do outreach. Possible event to look into participating, GIS Day, November 18. Paul reminded John that he would like to see GSA or GEO students do a presentation at a College of Engineering Advisory Board meeting. To get on the agenda, contact Loren Leman and Ellie Soto.

8. New Business:

- a) Advertising POB magazine: No consensus reached on if this is the best way to use funds. Our website needs a good marketing person to update it. ASLPS has shown interest in funding this. Maybe someone can write an article and publish it in the POB magazine. The College now has a social media staff member, Dana Collins, coordination with her will help improve the website. Possibly work with the College of Business, have a graduate student work on a marketing campaign for GEO as a class project, give the graduate student some incentive. Steve, Izaiah, and Jennifer showed interest in working on a subcommittee for GEO marketing. Nathan motion to approve a marketing committee, Tom 2nd. Approved.

9. Additions to Agenda

- b) Senior Projects: Contact John Bean with any questions or concerns with Senior Projects. Will look into creating a google doc to share with the Advisory Board so there can be more collaboration. Project ideas can be shared this way.

10. Schedule next meeting

Next GAB meeting to be during the survey conference, February 13-17, during lunch, no date set yet.

11. Adjournment- 10:35am

Nathan motioned to end meeting. Meeting adjourned. Engineering and Computation Building tour given by Kim Riggs commenced at 10:35am.

GEOMATICS DEPARTMENT UPDATE FOR GAB MEETING 2016-09-23

Enrollment

- New Enrollment: 10
 - AAS: 1 as a freshman/recent HS grad, and 2 as transfer students
 - BS: 2 as freshman/recent HS grads, and 7 as transfer students
 - UC GIS: 0 (admission suspended)
- Total Enrollment: 84
- Gender Count:
 - F:18
 - M:66
- Student credit hours: 797
 - including service courses for Civil Engineering, Geography, Natural Science, etc.

Al Talcott fund

- Accumulated since inception (recorded in Banner): \$33,535
- University Foundation account (available): \$19,705
- CoENG account (spendable) \$3,965

Graduates

- Spring 2016: 11
- Fall 2016: 4
 - November 1st is the deadline to apply for Fall 2016 graduation

Outlook for Fall 2016

- ABET accreditation visit to evaluate Geomatics program, October 16-17
- Two new TLS terrestrial laser scanners (Z+F IMAGER 5010C), \$180K in total