



**College of Engineering and Computing  
Faculty Council Meeting  
November 10, 2016**

**Committee in attendance:**

Gang Quan (ECE), Yiding Cao (MME), Shu-Ching Chen (SCIS), Nipesh Pradhananga (SC), Walter Tang (CEE), Jessica Ramella (BME), Ronald Baier (SC)

**Absent:** Armando Barreto (ECE - excused), David Garber (CEE - excused), Deng Pan (SCIS - excused), Chenzhong Li (BME)

**Guest:** Dr. Ranu Jung (Interim Dean, College of Engineering and Computing)

- The meeting was called to order at 3:35 PM by Dr. Chen
- The Minutes of the October 13, 2016 Faculty Meeting were approved upon motion of Dr. Ramella and seconded by Dr. Chen; the current meeting Agenda was approved upon motion by Dr. Ramella and seconded by Dr. Chen.
- Dr. Chen reported that he is yet to receive a reply from the Provost regarding his request to include him as a representative of faculty council in the Dean Search Committee. The meeting unanimously agreed on sending an official request to query about the mechanism to include faculty council in the search process.
- Dean's report
  - Dean Search: Dr. Jung informed the meeting about the status of Dean Search. Three candidates had visited FIU with one scheduled within a week from the date of the meeting.
  - College hiring: An outstanding hire has been made in wind engineering based on NSF grant situation; job offer has been made. SCIS has some positions pending. SC will have a visiting faculty position next semester. ECE had send a letter about budget and available positions; clarification has been given in reply and inaccuracies have been explained 2 month ago (in September).
  - Marketing: CEC has put very strong effort to promote different aspects of the college. Millie Acebal is responsible as account manager-, significantly with media. CEC has bought 6 ads in ASEE newsletter under R&D section and the ads that link to information posted on our own College web sites will be out in November and

December. External program staff member, Shanika Boyd, has been hired for program marketing as well as digital marketing.

- Performance metrics and enrollment: Last year's performance metrics were overall positive. Action items were identified in the COMPASS meeting for continuing performance. Some action items have been completed others are in progress. The action items will be sent to faculty council and shared with all the members. It will become difficult to keep up the metric for "Bachelor's degrees in strategic areas" if enrollment decreases. Enrollment of FTIC students in particular has gone down since several are exploratory. Retention is another challenge, metrics can be met through retention even if enrollment goes down. All data based on department and academic plan can be found in <http://aim.fiu.edu/> .

The meeting had a productive discussion on how enrollment and retention issues can be resolved in CEC including the quality of incoming students, bottle-neck courses (like Calculus) and potential strategies that impact the metrics. Dr. Tang proposed that online or hybrid courses of mathematic courses may lows students more time to pass. Dr. Jung mentioned that courses like Calculus will have to be dealt in conjunction with Math Department and something like a boot-camp might be helpful.

- Quality of students: Dr. Jung encouraged faculty council to find more effective ways to attract better students. Outreach to schools, Research Experience for Teachers (RET) program and sending postcards to every transfer and freshman students through the "Women of College of Engineering and Computing" initiative was done to encourage and make students more comfortable at FIU. Dr. Jung also said that we should be aware of impact of enhanced activities at University of Miami and Nova Southeastern University on our enrollment. (Dr. Chen and Dr. Tang emphasized that quality of the incoming students has a chain effect on performance metrics and retention. Lowering faculty to student ratio may raise the quality and performance of the students.)
- International programs: Enrollment in China program dropped from 169 to 64 in recent years. Dr. Jung visited China this year with the Provost and also made a link with an industrial park. Other universities in China are also interested to join the program. Each department should have a member in the China group (Faculty from each department to work with Dr. Kang Yen, Director for China Programs). The CEC is actively working on expanding the program to Peru, Columbia and India are on-going. (Dr. Chen and Dr. Cao emphasized that the name and ranking of the university plays significant role in international enrollment.)
- Post-doc Opportunities: Post-doc opportunities are available through ORED. Recommendations are requested.

ERC Site Visits: CEC is a part of three invited ERC proposals. Out of 170 proposals submitted to NSF, FIU was a lead/part of 13 proposals. Three proposals are in final shortlisted proposals and site visits are ongoing.

- Bylaws and constitution: The current version of constitution of the CEC college council was passed before the School of Computing Science joined the college. Therefore, the name of “College of Engineering” needs to be changed to “College of Engineering and Computing”. The departmental representatives were requested to send out the constitution to all CEC faculty members and allow them until the next faculty council meeting to respond with any objections towards adding “Computing” to the college’s name.
- Dr. Ramella informed the council that BME has voted for starting the motion to (i) change the university’s name and (ii) establish a process to evaluate the chairs and the dean by all faculties.
- Name of the university: The meeting discussed on the challenges in changing the name of the university and potential names that can be proposed. The meeting agreed that the new name must reflect that (i) FIU is a part of the state university system (State University System of Florida) and (ii) FIU’s geographic location is Miami. The meeting found “University of Florida at Miami” to be the most obvious name. Dr. Cao emphasized on having “ - FIU” suffixed to the name. Dr. Chen made a motion to initiate the process to change the name of FIU which was 2nd by Dr. Cao. The meeting unanimously agreed.
- Evaluation of Chairs and Dean: Dr. Chen made a motion to approve a process to evaluate chairs and dean by all the faculties. Dr. Tang seconded and all the members in the meeting agreed to it. The meeting also discussed on the procedure to do the evaluations, the rights to view the evaluations and benefits of having such evaluation in place. The process will be discussed in coming meetings.
- Representation in Graduate and Undergraduate Program Directors’ Meetings: The meeting decided to select a representative from the faculty council to attend the graduate and undergraduate program directors’ meetings. The meeting agreed that the representation will act as a bridge and facilitate two way communication between the administration and faculties in terms of graduate and undergraduate affairs. The meeting decided on the following criteria for the representation (i) if any member of the council is the graduate or undergraduate program director of their respective department, they will represent the council in the directors’ meetings, (ii) if none of the members are eligible for Criteria (i), a member will be selected from the council. Based on the criterion, Dr. Pan (Graduate Program Director, SCIS) will be the graduate program representative and Prof. Baier (SC) volunteered to be the undergraduate program representative.
- Budget Committee: The meeting discussed on the need of having a budget committee through the faculty council. Dr. Chen highlighted that Faculty Senate has a budget committee. Dr. Tang

made a motion to approve the budget committee and was seconded by Dr. Chen. Prof. Baier and Dr. Quan voted against it. The formation of budget committee will be discussed in the next meeting.

- The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 PM.

Prepared by: Nipesh Pradhananga

Reviewed by: Shu-Ching Chen and Walter Tang