



College of Engineering and Computing

Faculty Council on Governance

Meeting on Monday, Jan 22, 2024

(ZOOM: from 3:00 to 4:30 pm)

Minutes

Committee members:

In Attendance: Walter Tang (CEE), Xia Jin (CEE), Vladimir Pozdin (ECE), Mohammad Rahman (ECE), Anamika Prasad (BME), Pezhman Mardanpour (MME), Wallied Orabi (MDCM), Lufan Wang (MDCM), Bogdan Carbutar (KFSCIS), Janki Bhimani (KFSCIS), Bruk Berhane (SUCCEED), Stephen Secules (SUCCEED)

Absent: Hamid Shahrestani (BME), Norman Munroe (MME)

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM by Dr. Walter Tang.

1. **Call to Order – Dr. Tang**
2. **Approval of Last Faculty Meeting Minutes (December 11, 2023).**

The meeting minutes were approved with no change.

3. **Major items discussed at the meeting.**

A. **Call for action for more active subcommittees.**

The Council discussed the need for more active subcommittees (i.e., the Library, Curriculum, Tenure and Promotion, Awards, IT, and Budget committees in the College). Each committee should elect a new Committee Chair, conduct regular committee meetings, and develop new vision, mission, and action items in the AI era. The Council Chair will contact each committee and request a progress report from them.

B. Chain of command in College of Engineering and Computing.

The Council discussed the importance of respecting the chain of command within the college and avoiding past issues where the chain was bypassed. The Council emphasized the need for a clear and more democratic process for any appointments within the department, and the importance of faculty input in such decisions.

C. Research priorities and resource allocation at the College of Engineering and Computing.

The Council discussed the importance of understanding the current research priority and resource allocation in the college. It is suggested that the Budget Committee work closely with the Dean's office to align financial decisions with the strategic plan of the college and the university.

D. University Strategic Plan.

The Council discussed the importance of the impact on the local economy in the CEC's strategic plan. It is proposed to collaborate with other colleges and industries such as Amazon to build an industrial park. It is believed that these initiatives could have major economic impact, create employment opportunities, and increase the County's GDP.

E. Ph.D. candidates as teaching assistant to reduce teaching faculty.

The Council discussed the potential of increasing the number of Ph.D. candidates as teaching assistants, as teaching experience is required through doctoral training. Too many teaching professors reduce academic compactivity as tenure tracking professors will conduct active research as update teaching content in the fast-changing landscape in the AI era. Reducing teaching faculty will increase Ph.D. enrolment. Current teaching faculties must update their course materials to ensure that our students will be AI-ready and able to compete in the AI era after they graduate.

F. Programming and AI skills into the current curriculum.

The Council discussed that it is important to adapt to technological advancements and integrating AI into the curriculum. A policy is urgently needed to require faculty to teach at least one computer programming language so that students to be proficient in Python during their first-year or sophomore years and to apply AI algorithms in their senior design projects.

4. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 PM.