Engineering Faculty Council on Governance

MINUTES OF DECEMBER 10, 2004

Next meeting ➜ January 28, 2005

Meeting started at: 12:21 PM
Meeting ended at: 02:06 PM

Members:		Present	Absent
Biomed:	Eric Crumpler	X	
	Anthony McGoron	x	
Civil:	Albert Gan	X	
	Walter Tang	x	
Construction	Syed Ahmed	X	
	Gene Farmer	X	
Electrical & Computer	Sakhrat Khizroev	X	
	Osama Mohammed	x	
Industrial & Systems:	Martha A. Centeno	x	
	Chin-Sheng Chen		x
Mechanical & Materials	Yong Tao	X	
	Cesar Levy	x	

Officers:

Chair	Osama Mohammed
Vice Chair	Gene Farmer
Secretary:	Martha A. Centeno

Guests:

- Hector Fuentes,
- Vish Prasad,
- Sabri Tosonuglu,

1. The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 12:06 PM.

2. Agenda for the meeting was approved.

3. Report from the Dean

   Dr. Mohammed gave an introduction to the topic to be presented by Dean Prasad in regards to the move of the School of Computer Science to the College of Engineering. He reported that after having met with Dean Prasad, the ECE faculty supports the move based on the statement of the Dean that the move will have a minimal impact. 14 ECE faculty voted to support the move; 4 ECE faculty abstained.

   Dean Prasad made a presentation in regards to the prospectus move of the School of Computer Science (SCS) to the College of Engineering (COE). He made a presentation to SCS a few weeks ago. There is a web site under the COE site with the presentation; however, he did not have the URL handy.

   Dean pointed out that the most successful Computer Science (CS) programs are housed within the Engineering College. The viewgraphs presented by the Dean show that among the top 20 CS programs, 75% are within engineering. Further, CS programs have a stronger research agenda when they are housed in engineering.

   If SCS moves to COE,

   - COE undergraduate enrollment will grow to 1763 and graduate enrollment will grow to about 780.

   - COE FTE (combined) will equal that of Urban Affairs and Business, and it will be greater than that of Education.

   - Education will become the smaller College in the University.

   - The cost of each FTE will go down as the denominator will grow much more than the numerator.

   - Currently, FIU's CS program ranks either 3rd or 4th in several areas among Florida Universities. With the move, the COE will rank 2nd, and the CS program along with it. This will enable us to assert us and move towards improving quality along with the numbers.

   - Nationally, we will move to group two as per faculty number (130 to 160). We are currently in group 3 (70 to 120)

o The combined research OCE+SCS+HCET will put COE among the top 25 in the nation.

o The merger of HCET to engineering will be considered. Right now, HCET is associated to engineering but has separate budget.

o It will help the Computer Engineering program at the undergraduate level. He stated that Computer Engineering is the weakest program in the College because it is too close to Electrical Engineering. The merger will help them by enhancing teaching and research.

o Electrical Engineering will see a small reduction in FTE as Computer Engineering Faculty moves to SCS.

o SCS will remain as school but with a new name: School of Computing and Information. It will house CS, Telecom, and Computer Engineering programs.

o The budget will remain the same: two separate lines for the remainder of this year, but it will fall under COE on 7/1/05.

The Dean stated that ECE faculty and all department chairs and directors have signed a letter supporting this initiative. He asked the council to give him similar support.

The Council agreed to add his request to the already approved agenda. The item was place at the end of the agenda.

Dean thanked the Council and left.

4. Minutes from 11/19/04 were approved.

5. Calendar for Spring Semester meetings

   o Motion FCG0405_5 → **Approved (Yes → 11; No → 0, Abstain → 0)**

     The FCG will meet on the following dates during the Spring semester of 2005: January 28, March 4, April 1st, May 13.

   o Motion FCG0405_6 → **Approved (Yes → 11; No → 0, Abstain → 0)**

     During the meeting of May 13, the meeting calendar for the entire 2005-2006 academic year will be established.

6. Procedure to submit and discuss topics.

   o Motion FCG0405_7 → **Approved (Yes → 11; No → 0, Abstain → 0)**

     Inclusion of topics for discussion by the Council will be according to a FIFO queue discipline. As topics are brought to the cancel they will be added to the list.

   o Motion FCG0405_8 → **Approved (Yes → 11; No → 0, Abstain → 0)**

     Faculty who wish to bring a topic to the attention of the council shall follow the procedure described in this minute.

   Procedure to accept a topic for discussion:

   1. Any faculty may submit to any member of the Council a topic for possible discussion by the Council.

   2. Submitting Faculty should provide a short statement (no more than 1 page) of what the topic is all about. This statement will help Council members decide if the topic is under the scope of the Council and its appropriateness for Discussion.

Procedure to discuss a topic:

1. Either the submitting faculty or a "champion" (another faculty or Council member) shall be recognized to present the topic.

2. The Council shall discuss as appropriate, and formulate a motion when so deem necessary.

3. The Council may recognize other faculty to speak in "favor" or "against" the topic. Presenting "champion" shall be available to answer questions and provide clarifications.

4. A motion stating the action taken on the topic shall be formulated.

5. Topics with no "champion" shall be withdrawn.

7. Modifications to the Bylaws

   o Motion FCG0405_9 → **Approved (Yes → 11; No → 0, Abstain → 0)**

      Motion to table the presentation and discussion of changes to the Bylaws. It will be discussed at the January 28th meeting.

8. Report from the Chairs of Standing Committees.

   o Motion FCG0405_10 → **Approved (Yes → 11; No → 0, Abstain → 0)**

      Motion to adopt the reports given by the standing committees.

      Curriculum → Dr. Sabri Tosonuglu

         o Two Computer Science courses have been objected to by the ECE department. These courses were withheld and not presented to the Faculty Senate. Kang Yen and Raimund Ege will meet to reach a resolution on these courses.

      Library →

         o Professor Fuentes reported that the Library Committee had met as requested by the Council Chair. The Committee nominated and unanimously approved Dr. Ryoo as the Chairperson.

         o The Committee will now pursue the study requested by the Council in its 10/29/04 meeting, and it will report back during the January meeting.

      Promotion and Tenure

         o There was no report from the P & T committee.

9. Report / presentation of new issues by department representatives. (new topics for inclusion)

   o There were no specific topics for inclusion; however, MME and ISE representatives expressed concern with the reshuffling of A&P / Staff / OPS that is going on in the COE. It is creating a stressful work environment.

10. Revision of Agenda items

   Dr. Centeno was instructed to include the item "new business" in the agenda, and to re-arrange the items to better allocate time. Next agenda will reflect these instructions.

   The Council will discuss 3 issues at each meeting.

11. Discussion of topics.

There was no discussion of the topics. With a clear protocol for discussion, the Council expects to tackle most of these topics in the spring semester. The pool remains as follows:

1. Departmental academic restructuring
2. Joint appointments
3. Acting Chair appointments
4. Complaints against Chairs / Administrators
5. Course Load Assignment
6. Research facilities
7. Nominations of Faculty for Awards
8. Construction / Building expansions
9. Associate Chair
10. Departmental staff issues.

12. Action Items
   o Next meeting was set for January 28th, 2005 at 12:00 noon; EC 2300

Having no more time to conduct pending business, the Faculty Council adjourned at 2:08 pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Martha A Centeno, Secretary.