



**College of Engineering and Computing  
Faculty Council Meeting  
December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

**Committee members in attendance:** Jacob McPherson (BME), Walter Z. Tang (CEE), Albert Gan (CEE), Ahmed Ibrahim (ECE), Jiuhua Chen (MME), Lu Zhang (Moss SCIS), Jason Liu (SCIS); Xuan Lv (Moss SCIS); Bogdan Carunaru (SCIS); Sharan Ramaswamy (BME)

**Additional attendee:** Dr. John Volakis

**Absent:** (excused), Shubhendu Bhardwaj, Ibrahim Tansel.

- The meeting was called to order at 3:38 PM by Dr. Tang
- Motion to approve the meeting's agenda was approved
- Motion to approve November's minutes was approved
  
- Dean's update (Dr. Volakis):
  - Fourteen new faculty members were hired in the past year. From ten to twelve new faculty lines will be hired to align with three key State of Florida target areas for synergy amongst SUS schools (Health, Resilience, and Technology).
  - College did well during University auditing. Primary concerns is non-allowable purchases which is related in part to different accounts having different approvers.
  - Increasing income from market rate education programs.
  - One person already identified for a new development team of the college. In addition, alumni relations and industry relations staff will be added.
  - New Horizons fundraising campaign and associated advertising for the university nationally and internationally on January 24, 2019.
  - The current four-year graduation rates are: BME 30%; CS: 40%; MME: 15-20%; ECE, Civil: 15%, Construction: 14%, respectively. The college is targeting at 32.5% by 2025.
  - Dean strongly advocates for adjunct instructors, not regular faculty, to teach in the summer.
  
- FC Chair's briefing (Dr. Walter Z. Tang):
  - Discussion of strategies for increasing 4-year graduation rate
    - Request faculty to ID bottlenecks in their departments that prevent timely graduation to support development of a college-wide policy

- Conflict of Interest policy: (Dr. Gan) specifically as it relates to department heads also being director of funded centers housed within their department.
- Discussion of converting current Engineering Center into an industrial park when new engineering buildings are completed on 8<sup>th</sup> St. and 107<sup>th</sup>.
  
- November's minutes were modified to update the language of the Summer teaching motion to include "In order to increase the four-year graduation rate and to ensure quality of instruction and consistency with Fall/Spring course offerings, the college should ensure critical courses offered in summer can be taught by regular faculty." The motion was voted on a second time after the update, with 10 "yes" votes.
  
- **Resolution:** The Faculty Council on Government strongly urges the College administration to disallow directors of major funded centers from serving as department chair or school director to avoid infringements of academic freedom, conflicts of interest, and abuse of power. The resolution was passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:34 PM.

Prepared by: Jacob McPherson

Reviewed by: Dr. Walter Tang and Dr. Sharan Ramaswamy