

School of Engineering - Faculty Meeting Minutes

November 11th, 2022

Richard Weeks Hall of Engineering, room 105

Present: H Benaroya, A Bertuccio, M Brown, H Buettner, P Calderon, Y Chen, A Cuitiño, G Dignon, X Gu, Q Guo, Y Guo, W Guo, M Jafari, L Klein, H Najm, M Pierce, D Pompili, J Robbins, I Rosen, M Shehat, K Santo, M Sorensen, P Spasojevic, R Wang, S Wei, E Wicks, G Yang, Y-K Yong, Q Zou.

Interim Dean Alberto Cuitiño called the meeting to order at 4:08 pm.

No objections were raised concerning the minutes of the faculty meeting held on September 9th, 2022, nor on the agenda of the current meeting.

- Dean's Report:
 - Interim Dean Cuitiño began by highlighting several successful events hosted by the School of Engineering. The 2022 Medal of Excellence dinner was held on October 27th, recognizing SoE alumni Tilak Lal, Brian P. Reilly, Rita Marty, Squire J. Servance, Christine C. Ho, and Kiana Aran. The event was attended by Rutgers President Jonathan Holloway, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Prabhass Moghe, and Chancellor-Provost Francine Conway.
 - The Rutgers Hall of Distinguished Alumni named SoE alumni Kenneth Johnson (ENG '66) and Brian Riley (ENG '80) among the four inductees for 2022 in an event on November 3rd.
 - The Research and Development Council of New Jersey held the 43rd Edison patent awards on November 3rd. F. Javier Diez-Garias and Marco M. Maia were recognized for their patent titled "Unmanned Air and Underwater Vehicle". This award is the state's highest recognition for inventors and innovators.
 - Interim Dean Cuitiño reported that the New Brunswick Academic Master Plan (AMP) is currently in the implementation phase. This will provide many opportunities for faculty to contribute by providing input and volunteering.
 - Starting in summer 2023, coordination of summer and winter programs will be transferred from Continuing Education back to the respective academic units.
 - Interim Dean Cuitiño noted that the SoE's incoming 1st year class currently stands at 1,021 students, making it the largest in the school's history. The university will set a cap of 7,000 students entering Rutgers – New Brunswick in Fall 2023, with the SoE capped at 1,000 students. More updates on enrollment will follow at a later date.
 - ECG representative Nicole Mallari reported on the organization's current food drive to support the Rutgers Food Pantry. This initiative challenges SoE departments to make the greatest number of contributions on a per student basis.

Faculty were encouraged to highlight this event to their students in an attempt to contribute over two tons of food to the program.

- New faculty / staff
 - Ilene Rosen introduced Priscilla Calderon as the new Assistant Dean for Student Services.

- Presentation: Ilene Rosen
 - Dean Rosen provided an update on student well-being and mental health within the School. It was noted that even prior to COVID, students nationwide were reporting higher rates of anxiety, depression, and use of associated medication. The COVID pandemic exacerbated these issues and introduced new challenges. Dean Rosen encouraged SoE faculty to be aware of these issues and to use resources such as <https://success.rutgers.edu/> during interactions with students. Dean Rosen will also host an upcoming workshop (hybrid format) on recognizing and helping students in distress.

- Presentation: Maria Sorensen
 - Senior Director of Development Maria Sorensen reported on several recent events and gifts to the School. The SoE Diversity Lecture, opening of the Bruce and Phyllis Nicholas Engineering Students Project Studio, Homecoming weekend, and Medal of Excellence Dinner, were all successful Fall events. Two significant gifts were made recently; \$500k from Paul and Jenna Segal to support offshore wind initiatives, and a six-figure award to the Department of Biomedical Engineering for general program support.

- Old Business
 - None

- New Business
 - None

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 5:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark C. Pierce

Secretary, Engineering Faculty