SoE Faculty Meeting Minutes

April 5th, 2019

Richard Weeks Hall of Engineering, Room 102


Dean Thomas N. Farris called the meeting to order at 3:19 pm.

The minutes of the Faculty Meeting held on February 8th, 2019 were approved. The agenda for the present Faculty Meeting was approved.

- Introduction of New Faculty:
  - David Shreiber introduced Maribel Vazquez (Associate Professor, BME)

- Dean’s Report:
  - Dean Farris and the SoE Faculty congratulated Assistant Dean Michael Brown on completion of his PhD studies in the Graduate School of Education.
  - Dean Farris reviewed the School of Engineering’s Five-Year Strategic Plan (2015-2020) – Engineering Out Front. The five Goals of this plan focus on:
    1. Recognition as one of the nation’s top engineering colleges
    2. Advancing specialized and relevant research activity
    3. Driving economic growth through corporate engagement
    4. Cultivating an actively engaged engineering community
    5. Providing state-of-the-art facilities including classrooms and research space
  - Dean Farris thanked committee members whose work supported development of the 2015-2020 Strategic Plan and requested that the Faculty think ahead to the next five years (2020-2025) and identify new goals to reinvigorate the activities of the School. Several initial suggestions were made for areas to focus on, including:
    - A review of progress made towards the 2020 goals, to identify specific strengths and weaknesses
    - A reshaping of the undergraduate curriculum; reconsidering the Freshman course sequence, raising the potential for increased interdisciplinary study across majors, and enhancing the Honors Program over all four years of the BS degree
– New approaches to graduate student recruiting; exposing undergraduates to opportunities for Masters study at Rutgers, and bringing the top candidates for PhD study to the School

• Old Business
  – None

• New Business
  – Dean Farris highlighted several upcoming events on the School’s calendar:
    – April 13th, SoE Open House (https://soe.rutgers.edu/openhouse)
    – April 27th, Rutgers Day (https://rutgersday.rutgers.edu/)
    – May 3rd, Civil Engineering Symposium, focused on collaboration with industry
    – May 17th, SoE Convocation (https://soe.rutgers.edu/oas/graduation). The address will be made by alumnus Dr. Thomas A. Kennedy, Chairman and CEO of Raytheon Company.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 3:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark C. Pierce
Secretary, Engineering Faculty