SoE Faculty Meeting Minutes
November 2nd, 2018
Richard Weeks Hall of Engineering, Room 102


Dean Thomas N. Farris called the meeting to order at 3:08 pm.
The minutes of the Faculty Meeting held on September 14th, 2018 were approved. The agenda for the present meeting was approved.

• Announcement:
  Engineering Governing Council (ECG) representative Asmaa Hasan announced the upcoming “Battle of the Engineering Departments Food Drive” (Nov. 5th – 30th). This event is a competition between Departments to raise the most donations (non-perishable food and toiletries) for the Rutgers Food Pantry. Collection boxes will be placed in each Department for contributions.

• Dean’s Report:
  – Dean Farris advised the Faculty that the recent ABET site visit was a success. All 9 engineering programs received high praise from the program evaluators with no shortcomings to be addressed in most programs. This was the first time for the Aerospace Engineering program to undergo ABET evaluation.
  – Dean Farris noted that the 2019 US News college ranking criteria have changed, placing less emphasis on standardized tests (including SAT scores) and reputational score, with more emphasis placed on student outcomes. Rutgers - New Brunswick rose from 69th to 56th place in the National Universities ranking. Among public universities, Rutgers - New Brunswick ranked 17th, tied with Purdue University and The Ohio State University. Pennsylvania State University and The University of Maryland ranked 20th and 22nd among public schools, respectively.
  – Dean Farris reminded Faculty that the Board of Governors approved a measure to apply in-state tuition rates to several categories of supported PhD students, including out-of-state and international students. GA appointments are also seeing a modest, steady rise.
  – Several research centers reported good news:
C-SOPS received the Chairman’s Award from the Research and Development Council of New Jersey. Past recipients have included Rutgers alumnus Dr. Ralph Izzo (2014).

CAIT will lead a consortium of university partners in the US Dept. of Transport’s Region 2 University Transportation Center (UTC).

WINLAB received funding from the NSF for their “Cloud-Enhanced Open Software-Defined Mobile-Wireless Testbed for City-Scale Deployment” (COSMOS) project, to be deployed in Harlem in partnership with Columbia University and NYU.

- Industry relations: Tom Kennedy of Raytheon / Tier-1 school partnerships
- The Society of Women Engineers (SWE), Society of Hispanic Engineers (SHE), and Minority Engineering Educational Task (MEET) groups held a successful career fair featuring 59 companies and over 1500 students.
- Rutgers alumnus Richard N. Weeks made a commitment of $10m to support undergraduate scholarships in the School of Engineering. This represents the largest gift ever received by Rutgers for scholarships, and the largest ever to the School of Engineering. Mr. Weeks will be in attendance at the dedication event for the Richard Weeks Hall of Engineering at 2pm on November 15th, 2018.
- Progress is being made on the proposed Rutgers Student Projects Studio.
- Interim Chancellor Molloy has made a commitment to proceed with the proposed expansion of the Fiber Optics building.
- Dean Farris noted that the School has seen a drop-in master’s student enrollment numbers; Department Chairs have been tasked with developing plans to prioritize enrollment in future recruiting cycles.

- Introduction of New Faculty:
  - Two new Faculty members were introduced by Nenad Gucunski:
    Richard Dunne (Professor of Professional Practice), CEE
    Sougata Roy (Associate Research Professor), CEE

- Old Business
  - None

- New Business
  - A vote was held to select and ratify new bylaws for the School of Engineering. An ad hoc committee chaired by Hao Lin had previously developed two options for consideration (“Option A” and “Option B”). The Rules of Procedure Committee, chaired by Waheed Bajwa, circulated these two versions to Faculty and established voting procedures prior to the meeting.
RPC member Franklin Moon summarized the key differences between Option A and Option B. Both options provide voting rights at the SoE level to (1) Tenured and tenure-track faculty with an appointment of 50% or greater in the SoE, (2) Full-time, non-tenure-track faculty at the rank of Assistant Professor and above in the SoE, excluding those grant-funded at 50% or higher, and (3) Deans of the SoE. Option A provides voting rights at the Department level to both groups (1) and (2) above, while Option B provides Department level voting rights to group (1) only, with voting membership of non-tenure-track faculty determined by individual Department bylaws.

- Prof. Moon advised that minor updates to academic titles within the University system would be reflected in the newly adopted SoE bylaws.

- Prof. Moon also advised that eligibility to vote on this measure was limited to (1) Tenured and Tenure-Track Faculty, (2) Deans, (3) Faculty members who hold more than 50% of SoE budgeted lines, in accordance with Section II.B of the current bylaws.

- Several points of discussion were raised concerning the proposed bylaws. A motion was advanced to change the word “should” to “shall” in section VI.D.2, concerning Department level voting membership. This motion was approved by a show of hands.

- Eligible attendees cast paper ballots which were counted by both RPC member Franklin Moon and SoE Secretary Mark Pierce. The total number of votes cast for Option A was 26, with 19 votes for Option B, resulting in the adoption of Option A as the new SoE bylaws.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 3:44 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark C. Pierce
Secretary, Engineering Faculty