College Council Meeting Minutes  
College of Engineering and Computer Science  
October 30, 2017

Members Present: Robert Jones, Jorge Vidal, Mohammed Abdul Raheem, Nazmul Islam, Jesus Gonzalez, Andrew Winslow, Alley Butler, Isaac Choutapalli, Weidong Kuang, and Liyu Zhang

The meeting from the previous meeting were approved.

It was reported that no workload policy at the university level has been established. We were encouraged to talk with our faculty senators.

The issue of having a senator ex-officio was discussed. It was reported that Doug Timmer had been offered the job but declined. Other senators were also contacted without positive results. With this lack of positive response, Bob Jones again proposed that Jorge Vidal function as both a council member and an ex-officio senator. His motion was seconded and passed.

The graduate committee provided a handout that summarized the graduate program status. Mohammed Abdul Raheem proposed that students be allowed to take hours at their home institution. It was pointed out that as things now exist, students can transfer in up to 12 graduate credit hours. The discussion was summarized by focusing on the drop in enrollment from last year.

Bob Jones hypothesized that most of the drop in enrollment was due to a decline in the number of International Students. He continued by saying that the cost of taking the GRE was arising the cost of admission. Further, there were $1,000 scholarships that have now been dropped. These scholarships allowed international students to get instate tuition. Alley Butler provided information on online courses. He said that due to immigration status of international students, courses were provided as reduced seat time to avoid problems for international students; however, domestic students were allowed to take these reduced seat time courses as virtually online, permitting students to take courses from Los Angeles, Seattle, Minneapolis, Pennsylvania, and Tennessee. It was emphasized that we need to build relationships with other universities.

The Graduate Recruitment Subcommittee was asked to bring forward both short term and long term recommendations.

The report from the Safety subcommittee was next. Posting of safety material content on Blackboard was considered for people who have safety modules to complete. Bob Jones asked for a general model with details for each specific lab. It was proposed that work study students could build online material.

Bob Jones charged the Safety subcommittee to poll the stakeholders.
Weidong Kuang stated that we need to decide who can access various labs. Volunteers are not to be admitted to the laboratories. Only students and those with a paid relationship are permitted to be in the laboratories.

The questions was raised about shared governance and good communication within the college. Mohammed Abdul Raheem proposed a points system for participating in surveys and other things. He was reminded that points are no longer used in evaluations.

The use of social events to improve good communication was mentioned. Having donuts and coffee for faculty was mentioned. The social events that happened when Dean LeMaster was present was mentioned. For example, there was a Thanksgiving meal and Christmas parties.

Committee members were asked to bring feedback in two weeks. Our deliverables include a Safety committee plan and the Graduate Program subcommittee report. Dr. Gonzalez asked for more time, and his deliverable was postponed to November 27th instead.

Next meeting: Monday, November 13, 2017 at 3:15 pm in the Dean’s Conference Room.