

**University of South Florida
College of Engineering Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
October 31, 2012**

Advisory Board members present: Chuck Black, Robert Garcia, Fermin Diaz, Gene Balter, John Bucher, Nils Giere, James Bubba Turner, Frank Busot, Bill Bracken, Ed Copeland, Pat Beyer, Robert Andrew, Alan Brannan,

College of Engineering staff present: John Wiencek, Janet Gillis, Rafael Perez, Beth Fontes, Major Alston.

Meeting was called to order at: 12:30 by Chairman Black

Dean Wiencek welcomed everyone and each person present introduced his or her self.

Dean Wiencek gave a College update.

He is pleased with the continual modification of the board and the substantial progress the board has made on the four initiatives. He discussed the role of the board and his role as dean in a PowerPoint presentation titled "Academics vs. Corporate Views."

A short discussion was held about enrollment-based funding which is no longer being done by the Board of Governors and overall funding has declined significantly. The money given by the state for in-state students is now a 50/50 split so tuition is rising to cover the shortfall. It used to be 75/25.

The ability to change is much done easier in corporate than academia. Although academia is going to see faster change in the next few years

The concept of tenure was explained through a few examples

John provided group with the latest College updates and rankings, and introduced Major Alston to the board.

Robert Andrew - Engineering Alumni Society (EAS) update.

He announced new EAS officers and gave a report on the corporate ambassador program. The travel grant program allocates \$10k annually for student to attend conferences. Bullarney is the main fundraiser and that will be March 23, 2013 and provides funds for sponsorship of conference room and scholarships, which have been cut back somewhat due to low income returns. Upcoming is homecoming, co-sponsorship with business for tailgates and watch parties. The next networking event will be in January. If you have any questions or suggestions contact Bob for more info.

Committee Reports

Robert Garcia – Legislative Committee

Robert suggested changing the committee name to the Government Relations Committee.

After meeting with the governor's chief of staff he was told not necessary for us to lobby in Tallahassee because there are already four USF lobbyists

Robert recommended changing direction to emphasize stem education by creating a push to teaching stem to the community and by selling the brand

He further recommended a meeting with the other engineering deans in Florida and their advisory boards to exchange ideas about educating the local governments on what the colleges are doing since it's mostly unknown and to show the impact and stem strength of the college. Attending the events at county and city levels to establish relations could build support.

John remarked that in the current lobbying efforts USF Health is getting all the limelight. He suggested creating a message to convey and ask the governing bodies we target to relay this message to local organizations.

Fermin asked for clarification on the plan details asking if it is a methodology to use the strength of the alumni and economic impact of the college. He believes this will let chambers, cities and counties to lobbying on our behalf.

Pat suggested we use our alumni to help Mark Walsh in his lobbying efforts. Pat asked what the greatest need at the College was and John said it was a building which would be \$40-50 million in cost

Robert will create an outline for further review.

Gene suggested that we make contact with the local Chamber and economic development committees.

Fermin Diaz - Leadership Committee

Fermin described the new leadership program as the culmination of many years of discussion to provide leadership skills for engineering students.

After several meetings of the leadership committee the group was trimmed down to a manageable subcommittee and ELATE is the proposed name.

It will expose students to leadership opportunities. At one point or another we will be asking board members and others to provide their experiences in the profession to some of the sessions.

There will be seven sessions four hours long and the pilot program will start with 20 students.

Raphael said he has received student recommendations from chairs and 40 will be invited. We will also want some other faculty from other colleges to participate. Tom Krisa is the instructor of record. It will be a zero credit course so it appears on their transcript

The course outline was briefly reviewed. With the amount of time available, this focuses on the key elements that will lead the students to some self-study in other areas.

We will ask for feedback as the program goes along and not just at the end. Tom Krisa is a chemical engineering that worked for BP and is now a consultant. Lecture groups and panel discussion and professional interaction this will provide an opportunity to connect the advisory board with students

Fermin said he has been involved with FES and FICE leadership program and development for young professionals. It is now in its 10th season and it is his hope that this grows like the FES program. Even though it is non-credit voluntary program now and by invitation only his goal is to have student lined up to be in this program.

Gene asked who the presenter will be for the sessions and Tom and Rafael will approach people who can add context such as business psychology. Gene asked if the focus will be on students transitioning to real world.

Frank said that each session will have its own format and each will be varied.

John said it will give the students soft skills. At the moment we are reworking curriculum and after several sessions that it could become part of the curriculum ongoing.

John Bucher and Ed Copeland - Careers Committee

John, Ed, Tom and Nils all worked on this project, which comprises gaining skills through internships, understanding job related skills and preparing their resumes to find opportunities.

Both John and Ed were co-op students and they felt the experience was a good one so they are bringing ideas to the table based on their experiences.

Their goal is to double the number of internships in two years by creating a benefits list for corporations. This would fit well with the leadership program.

There is a need to establish a method to track the stats of placement hiring and they want a websites to promote the program as well as marketing plans.

Some promotion ideas could be through brown bag luncheons, mentoring, EAS and other organizations, luncheons, career nights.

After reviewing the presentation they opened the floor to questions from the board.

Chuck asked if this will compete with the current co-op program. No, because there's less and less demand in the workplace for co-ops.

Ed said there are three categories of companies – ones that don't do it; ones that don't know how to do it and ones that are doing it

Bubba said that the interns that he hires inspire a lot of the employees at his organization.

Gene said he sees a gap between the students' capabilities and the tasks that need completion. He thinks the work must be extremely basic or it the opportunity won't work

Chuck asked what the next step would be.

John answered that president, board of governors and provost want to increase the number of students participating in internships. Provost has proposed a joint business and engineering format program. Right now the college needs to find a replacement for Melissa Tihor who was managing this program. Fees in the proposal are arbitrary matching funds through the high tech corridor and would be great in establishing the program.

Chuck commented that it is fantastic to see all this progress coming to fruition

Gene Balter - Development Committee

Gene reported the college exceeded its unstoppable goal but less than half the reported amount is cash and the rest is in-kind.

Beth provided a year-end wrap up on the H S A gift; Dr. Surti's scholarship and faculty fellowship plus a cash scholarship is for urgent financial need. Gordon Gillette and Paula expanded their gift. Agilent Technologies continues to gift software licenses for wireless circuit designs and provided analyzers for the WAMI lab. Harvey Kaylie of Mini Circuits received an honorary degree for his support of the college.

She urged board members to attend and support Bullarney or get involved with the Corporate Ambassador program.

Development office had a great year

Chair Black asked for agenda items for the next meeting. These items will be on the next agenda:

- CUTR update from Jason Bittner, director
- Continue to get updated feedback on the various committees.
- Autar Kaw will join us for insight into MOOCs and online education
- Invite students to talk about papers they had written
- Passing of the gavel
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Janet will reach out to members after the new year to get suggestions for the next meetings and other agenda items.

In closing the Dean suggested the next meeting would be in the spring, either March or April. In the meantime, each committee chair should contact each their members for a status report each month.

There was no further business.

Chairman Black adjourned the meeting at 4:30 pm.