Academy of Electrical and Computer Engineering (AECE)
Minutes of Annual Business Meeting
Thursday, April 18, 2013

Members Attending:

Max Anderson	Michael Apprill	Mark Birk
Edward Bradley	Lloyd Brunkhorst	Michael Emanuel
Robert Engelken	Kelvin Erickson	Mark Fehlig
Barry Freiner	James Fricke	Jeffrey Hackman
Mike Herron	Leonard Laskowski	Dennis Leitterman
James Leonard	David McNabb	Joe Monie, Jr.
Charles Naslund	Stephen Nelson	James Paunicka
Michael Perry	Steven Pflantz	Walter Reed
Neal Schaeffer	George Schindler	Kirit Shah
John Skain	Keith Stanek	Paul Stigall
George Tomazi	Thomas Van Doren	Jon Vaninger
Roger Volk	David Wang	Steve Watkins
Ronald Willoughby	Donald Willyard	

The annual Meeting of the Academy of Electrical and Computer Engineering was held Thursday, April 18, 2013 and called to order at 8:00 a.m. The meeting was held in the Comfort Suites Conference Center. President Dennis Leitterman chaired the meeting.

Dr. Kelvin Erickson, Department Chair, welcomed the Academy members. Introductions were made.

Dr. Kurt Kosbar reported on behalf of the Scholarship Committee. He reported that the Academy awarded a total of eleven scholarships this year. Four scholarships were awarded from the endowed scholarship account. Each award was for $1,350. The AECE Board approved awarding an additional $600 from the operating budget so that all four students would receive $1,500 awards. These scholarships are awarded to students who have completed a FASFA form (application for federal student financial aid) and have a combined household income of less than $40k. The recipients were: Daniel Chionuma, Rebecca Curtis, Zachary Kirby, and Anthony Wellnitz. Six scholarships were awarded from the non-endowed account for $1,500 each. These scholarships are awarded to students based on need and academic performance (GPA of ≥3.25). The recipients were: Taylor Clonts, Janell Branscum, Kyle Harper, Kyle Lundeen, Joshua Lynn and Joseph Strathman. One scholarship was awarded from the non-endowed account for $4,000. This scholarship was awarded to an incoming freshman based on need and academic performance. The recipient was Dylan Yoder.

The Academy members then heard a presentation by Michael Bouchard from the Mars Rover Design Team. Michael informed the Academy that this would be the first year that S&T would be competing in the University Rover Challenge at the Mars Desert Research Stations outside of

Hanskville, UT. He reported that the team is comprised of 40 active members and three senior design groups, with 10-12 of the members being from ECE.

Jason Northern, Development Officer, provided a campus update. He reported that the Hasselman Alumni House fundraising has reached $2M in funds raised. He also reported that the university has been provided with a new state matching opportunity. Twenty new need-based endowed scholarships could be established. These scholarships will allow $20,000 gifts and above to be matched 1:1 by the state (in increments of $20k). All funds must be received in full by April 30, 2014. The scholarships may be named by the donor and receiving departments can be specified. These scholarships would be awarded through the Student Financial Aid office.

Roger Volk made a motion for the AECE to request two scholarship slots to be funded by April 2014. Len Laskowski seconded the motion. Motion carried. An email will be sent to the membership with instructions on how to donate.

Dennis Leitterman called the business meeting to order by welcoming the new inductees that were present.

Don Shaw made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 2012 meeting. George Schindler seconded the motion. Motion carried.

George Schindler explained the endowed scholarship budget for March 1, 2012 through February 28, 2013. The budget for the endowed scholarship is strictly informational so no vote was required.

Mr. Schindler then reviewed the 2012-2013 income and expenditures and the 2013 – 2014 proposed budget with the Academy. Joe Monie made a motion to accept the financials. Len Laskowski seconded the motion. Motion carried. Mike Perry made a motion to approve the budget as stated. Charles Naslund seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Dr. Kelvin Erickson addressed the members about some possible funding initiatives. He stated that 90 new chairs ($65 each) or a ceiling mount project in the Academy Room ($4K) would be useful. The membership discussed both options and suggested a flat screen monitor in lieu of the projector. Joe Monie made a motion to donate up to $10K to purchase the flat screen monitor and then use the balance to purchase new chairs. Len Laskowski seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Michael Perry gave a report for the Membership Committee. He thanked the membership for all of the nominations received in the last year and encouraged everyone to continue to submit nominations. He reminded everyone that nominations need to include as much information as possible.

Jim Fricke announced that this is Dennis Leitterman's last year as President. Roger Volk will be the new President. George Schindler will be the new Vice-President. Jim Leonard will be the

new Secretary/Treasurer. Don Shaw asked for a vote by acclamation, which carried. Their terms will expire in 2015.

Don Shaw made the motion to elect Eric Aschinger and David McNabb to fill the two vacant board seats. Roger Volk seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Dennis Leitterman reported that he would once again be attending the Chancellor's Academy Presidents Forum. He stated that this was a direct line to the Chancellor. This allows the Chancellor to see where the academies are and what they are doing.

Mr. Leitterman reported that the next meeting of the AECE would take place on either Thursday, April 17 or 24, 2014. The date would be confirmed later.

Dr. Kelvin Erickson gave a department update. He reported that for Fall 2011 the department had 428 undergraduate students (139 CpE, 252 EE, 37 MSU) and 228 graduate students (36 CpE, 176 EE, 16 Distant). Research expenditures totaled $8.0M. The department had 28 faculty members, 5 assistant teaching professors, and 13 staff members.

Dr. Erickson reported on the numerous student awards from the last year:
- Our students won the HKN Outstanding Chapter Award
- Alton B. Zerby and Carl T. Koerner Outstanding ECE Student Award – Kenneth Bassler III
- IEEE Region 5 Robotics Competition -Finalist– Taylor Clonts, Tim Johnson, Stephen Moerer
- IEEE Region 5 Ethics Competition – 3rd – David Macke and Corbin LeGrand

He reported one alumni award:
- University of Akron Distinguished Engineering Alumni Award – Jim Leonard

The department has one new faculty member, Dr. Kristen Donnell in electrical engineering. Two faculty members retired: Dr. Norman Cox and Dr. Badrul Chowdhury. Faculty awards were given to: Dr. Jun Fan (Faculty Excellence Award); Dr. Yahong Zheng (Faculty Research Award); Dr. Kristen Donnell, Dr. John Seiffertt, Dr. R. Joe Stanley, Dr. Reza Zoughi (Outstanding Teaching Awards); Dr. Daryl Beetner, Dr. Richard DuBroff, Dr. Mehdi Ferdowsi, Dr. Jonathan Kimball, Dr. Yiyu Shi and Dr. Reza Zoughi (Teaching Commendation Award).

Dr. Erickson reported that the addition of EE emphasis areas has been approved. These areas are: Circuits and Electronics, Power and Energy, Communications and Signal Processing, Controls and Systems, and Optics and Devices. These areas will be available for students beginning in Fall 2013.

Other curriculum changes include minors in EE and CpE.

Future curriculum changes will include: renumbering the course using a 4-digit system (effective Fall 2014); review content of senior elective courses; and controls/communications course in required junior core is being debated.

The department strategic plan has been put on hold pending campus strategic plan. The campus plan is due to the UM President by June 3rd.

Dr. Erickson reported that the department has been asked to develop goals and expectations for research and scholarship to be used as a benchmark. U.S. News and World Report ranked approximately 30-50 graduate schools, we ranked

- working toward being ranked as top 25 in the nation
- establishing endowed teaching chair in circuits and computer engineering
- establishing a laboratory equipment endowment and senior design project endowment
- department to support 3 teams not in Student Design Center
- increase undergraduate and graduate enrollment
- offer more on-line courses
- increase female and minority faculty to 6
- increase scholarship/fellowship endowment
- expand research
- funding for new building addition
- three campus corporate partners on Academy
- support start-up and commercialization efforts of faculty and students

New initiatives include:

- Cooperative Program with MSU
  - Moving to new facility this summer
  - Expect to originate courses from MSU in Spring 2014
- Blended learning courses
  - Incorporate in-class and online content
  - Circuits II (EE 153) for three semesters
  - Microcontrollers (CpE 213) starting summer 2013
- More distance courses to generate more revenue for department
- Replace classroom seats (need 90 to finish)
- Install ceiling mount projector in Academy Room

The meeting then adjourned so that members could attend the groundbreaking ceremony at Bertelsmeyer Hall followed by a tour of the ECE labs and scholarship recipient presentations.

Dennis Leitterman moved that the meeting be adjourned at 3:15 p.m. Roger Volk seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Minutes submitted by George Schindler   July 30, 2013

The next AECE Meeting and Banquet of the Academy of Electrical and Computer Engineering will be _Thursday, April 24, 2014_. Mark your calendars and plan to attend.