Minutes
Department of Aeronautics & Astronautics
February 7, 2011

Attending: Bruckner, Dabiri, Feraboli, Hermanson, Holsapple, Jarboe, Kurosaka, Lin, Livne, Mattick, Mesbahi, Milroy, Shumlak, You; Catlett

Absent: Breidenthal, Ferrante, Hoffman, Slough

MINUTES
Minutes of the December 13, 2010, meeting was approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:
• There is no news of substance yet on the state budget.
• Todd Cleland is our representative from the Center for Commercialization. He asks to attend a future faculty meeting to discuss opportunities for development of industrial relations.
• The department has been contacted by the Leon Center, Spain, with regard to developing a relationship including study abroad opportunities, research collaborations, and instruction in the area of mechanical engineering. Chair Hermanson opined that undertaking this effort should be delayed until the Mubadala proposal is resolved.
• Professor Morgansen-Hill was welcomed back from her leave.
• The department has been offered an opportunity to participate in a program named “Bacon in Space,” by a meat vendor who patently has no idea of what it would take to launch and recover a pound of pork.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Computer Committee: Prof. Shumlak reported that, in response to a need for greater computing power and graphics processing, several options were investigated, including Hyak. Hyak was eliminated because many students were involved. Brian Leverson proposes to build a new cluster within the department to meet this need.

Graduate Committee: Prof. Lin reported review is underway for this year. 234 applications have been received, up 18% from 2010 and up 4% from 2009. 41% of applications are for the MSAA/MAE. Controls received 33% of the applications, Fluids 31%, Plasma 17%, and Structures 16%. The committee intends to keep the acceptance rate at about 40%. The department anticipates making about 10 TA offers to incoming PhD students (i.e., support will not be ongoing). Prof. Livne noted that inexperienced students are not much help in teaching advanced courses. Prof. Mesbahi countered that some students do have more experience, so a case could be made for their appointment where necessary. Teaching is a necessary part of professional preparation in some disciplines. In addition, the majority of courses of TAs are provided for more basic undergraduate topics, which graduate students should have mastered. Prof. Bruckner pointed out the necessity to mentor graduates as teachers as well as researchers, and the desirability of providing experience of substance rather than rote support functions. Prof. Feraboli added that more experienced students are less available as TAs, since second year MA students are busy completing their programs and second year PhD students would be working under a PI.

The Committee proposed to review applications for admission in Autumn to reduce the workload and make the distribution of support more fair (most resources are committed in the autumn process). Students accepted for Autumn could begin in Summer. Promising applicants could be reviewed at other times if desired by a PI. Prof. Shumlak noted that this procedure would make it easier to maintain high
quality of applicants, as it is more difficult to maintain consistency over the months of a rolling admissions process. He added that this would change the approach of students who may in have thought of this department as a casual back-up/second choice, since admissions have always been “open.” The recommendation was accepted by a vote of 12 in favor, 1 opposed, 1 abstaining.

**Undergrad Committee:** Prof. Bruckner reported that the committee had begun to grapple with detailed course descriptions for the Mubadala proposal. If the program at UAEU is to produce a UW degree, the instructors must be UW employees. The present thought is to make them simultaneously departmental affiliates and Senior Lecturers for whom salaries could be coded as “paid directly” by UAEU. Other questions to be addressed include

- whether to use direct freshman admission or transfer juniors (transfer of juniors would be easier at first);
- scheduling of course content for freshmen and sophomores as there is mismatch between current offerings of the two institutions
- Marlo Anderson is consulting UW departments regarding what current UAEU courses would be accepted as prerequisites
- UW has limits on transfer credits and foreign transfers. If students are admitted as freshmen, their early coursework would be taught by UW employees, so this is not an issue. Otherwise, the Provost might make an exception for this case.

**Safety Committee:** nothing to report

**Search Committee:** There is, of course, no current search activity. However, Prof. Mesbahi suggested the committee develop strategies to use to approach the Dean and to understand opportunities that are available now.

**Peer Review Committee:** Prof. Kurosaka reported that all Assistant Professors will be reviewed. Prof. Hermanson reminded the committee that all faculty are to be reviewed periodically. Many Associate and full Professors have not been reviewed for long periods, so Prof. Hermanson requested that a plan be made to remedy that oversight.

**Boeing Professorship Committee:** nothing to report

**Diversity Committee:** nothing to report

**Instructional Lab Committee:** nothing to report

**Social Committee:** nothing to report

**Space Allocation & Utilization Committee:** Prof. Bruckner reported that there is a current issue. All parties have been apprised and negotiations are taking place toward a solution.

**Space Systems Committee:** nothing to report

**Strategic Planning Committee:** nothing to report

**UWAL Committee:** nothing to report

**AIAA:** Prof. Dabiri reported that registrations are under way for the 2011 AIAA Region VI Student Conference in San Diego, March 24-27. Abstracts are due February 13. Prizes will be awarded for two new categories: Community Outreach (article) and Other Topics, a category for nontechnical papers related to Aerospace and an opportunity for underclassmen to contribute.

**Sigma Gamma Tau:** Prof. You reported that officers are selecting nominees for the undergraduate award.

**CoE Accreditation Continuous Improvement Committee:** nothing to report

**CoE CEP Committee:** nothing to report
CoE EDGE/UWEO Advisory Committee: nothing to report

CoE Executive Committee: nothing to report

CoE Promotion & Tenure Committee: Prof. Holsapple’s service on this committee will end Winter quarter. Prof. Holsapple reported that the committee’s processes are good, though some members argue that subtle changes of policy or procedure over the past three to four years should be voted upon by all faculty. The College website on promotion and tenure is good and up to date. One topic of debate is whether the candidate should provide his own citation count. If the data is not provided, the committee is not supposed to check. This is also the case with teaching evaluations. There will be a new chair of the committee in Spring quarter.

CoE Council: Prof. Lin attended a meeting on January 12 at which Tom Sparks explained the budget outlook. He demonstrated the actual and anticipated shifts in source of operations funding from 2009 through 2013 (in $ millions):

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Biennium</th>
<th>University</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Tuition</th>
<th>CoE</th>
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<td>2009</td>
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<td>29.5</td>
<td>42</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>307</td>
<td>370</td>
<td>38.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>436</td>
<td>36.4</td>
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Prof. Lin also reported that the Council is organizing the next all-college faculty meeting on May 24.

Engineering Manufacturing Steering Committee: nothing to report

UW Faculty Fellows: nothing to report

UW Faculty Senate: Prof. Livne has been the representative for the combined A&A and IE faculty this year. He will be replaced for the next academic year by a representative to be selected from and by the IE department. Prof. Livne reported the Senate felt there has been a change in Olympia with legislators recognizing the economic importance of the University, but the fiscal situation may still force budget reductions. A debate over shared governance was triggered by the President’s override of the Adjudication Committee’s recommendations on a case of scientific fraud from the Medical School: what is the real authority of deans, the president, et al. The fraud case is now in the courts and the Senate agrees that is not subject to consideration, but it will work on policy for the future. Prof. Livne mentioned that the AAUP website was active and may contain useful or interesting information.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM REVIEW
A small committee has met to begin the process leading to the actual review activity in 2012. Much more on this will be discussed at a later date.

BOEING DEPARTMENT NAMING
The offer has been raised to a more substantial figure but one still not acceptable for department naming. Rates for these actions seem to be fairly consistent across the country, with $15-20 million needed to name a department and $100 million to name a college. Part of this discussion is including UW as a preferred university. The committee (Profs. Livne, Mesbahi, Bruckner and Hermanson) is working with Judy Mahoney, Lorena McLaren and others to advance the discussion.

STAFF SURVEY
Two surveys are in preparation: one to assess staff attitudes toward their jobs and identify what is working or needs improvement from their perspective, and one to assess faculty experience of the functions provided by staff. College and University HR professionals have advised in the composition and they will assist the Chair in analysis of the results. Prof. Kurosaka and other referenced an outside consultant used during a previous staff reorganization; if such reorganization is contemplated as a result
of the survey, other non-UW guidance may be sought. Prof. Holsapple noted that student input should be
solicited, as they are a distinct constituency. Prof. Livne and others were concerned that the College may
use this information as an opportunity to interfere in departmental management. Prof. Hermanson assured
them that this was an internal process, designed to formalize and quantify information necessary to make
informed management decisions. Prof. Livne also expressed concern that the department may be
understaffed, particularly if the Mubadala proposal is implemented.

**MUBADALA**
Prof. Hermanson, Dean O’Donnell, with Dave McCon and Quentin Xerxa, members of the UW
Attorney General’s Office who have been assigned to the project, will travel to London during the week
of February 14 to meet with executive and legal representatives of MDC. They will work on business and
legal aspects of the proposal; intellectual property issues are of particular concern.

**NEW APPOINTMENT**
Prof. Kurosaka proposed the appointment as an Affiliate Professor of Ramani Mani. The appointment
was approved by a vote of 15 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining, 4 absent/not voting of 19 eligible.

**NEW BUSINESS**
None

**ADJOURNED**
Meeting adjourned at 17:00.