Minutes
Engineering Faculty Council
Meeting # 14, January 31, 2006

1. The meeting was called to order by Professor Reinhardt, the Presiding Officer for this meeting, at 10:00 am in 3501 SC

Members present: C. Beckermann, J. Reinhardt, S. Rahman and W. Krajewski

Deans present: B. Butler

Guests present: Prof. David Andersen and Doug Eltoft

2. Minutes for the October 11, 2005 meeting were approved.

3. Professor Reinhardt announced a meeting of the Engineering Administrative Council devoted to discussing core course allocation between departments to be held in the afternoon of January 31st. Professor Rahman agreed to represent the EFC at that meeting.

4. In preparation for developing charges for the recently approved Information Technology Committee, Professors Reinhardt and Andersen reported on the discussion they had with representatives from Big Ten colleges of engineering at the Big Ten Engineering Information Technology Centers Conference on 9/26/05. In addition to Doug Eltoft, Robert Kohlhep from Wisconsin, Bill Burkhard from Penn State, Fred Hall from Michigan State, and Paul Killey from Michigan participated. Faculty involvement regarding information technology issues at Big Ten universities covers a wide range: from very informal to highly structured. In all cases budgetary matters are considered outside of the scope of faculty involvement. Most places seem to prefer centralized (i.e. university level) decision making customized to the local (i.e. college) level.

5. The Council initiated a preliminary discussion of the role of Information Technology Committee. According to the CoE Manual of Procedure:

   The Information Technology Committee shall be responsible for reviewing and evaluating policies governing hardware, software, and computing services within the college, and for making appropriate recommendations regarding computer resources to the dean and the faculty.

The Council and other participants of the meeting discussed the following aspects of the Committee: its formal relationship with the Curriculum Committee, (2) role of the Computer Systems Support (CSS) in supporting research conducted by the College faculty members not affiliated with Institutes and Centers; (3) role of the CSS in supporting the Dean’s office; and (4) student involvement in the Committee’s discussions and decision making process. Professor Krajewski will draft charges for the Information Technology Committee for further discussion.
6. The Council will invite the chairs of the current EFC committees to report on the status of their progress regarding their charges.

7. The EFC adjourned at 11:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Witold F. Krajewski
EFC Secretary