Minutes of the UI Engineering Faculty Council
Meeting No. 7
3210 Seamans Center
October 10, 2007

Call to Order 3:35 pm

Present: S. Rahman- Chair, A. Guymon, M. Raghavan, Dean Butler, Dean Scranton

Absent: S. Reddy, R. Valentine

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from meetings 5 and 6 were approved unanimously.

Old Business

PELEEI: John Lee attended to discuss charges of the task force. Rahman asked specifically for Lee to address resources needed, recruitment of members, and charges. Butler suggested also the professionalism aspect be addressed. Lee discussed history of the task forces. He originally wrote a paper regarding academic honesty and ethics. With this starting point the task force has increased in scope to include professionalism and ethics. After initial discussions with the EFC, some draft charges were crafted. In the meantime, Lee has met with the College Advisory Board, Dean Butler, and the EFC again to get feedback. The overall purpose was not just to satisfy ABET requirements, but the outcomes could be used to support accreditation.

Lee has a draft document that he will edit and send to EFC. He discussed highlights of the document. The overall objectives are to distinguish our students by providing greater and more valuable skills than are part of other engineering programs, and develop engineers from high school seniors. To make this happen, resources and buy in from faculty are needed. Lee outlined 6 envisioned stages for the task force and discussed proposed strategies including college-wide speakers, best practices from professional schools, EPS I module, and Professionalism & Ethics Certificate.

Butler discussed efforts at Northeastern to document areas of specific activities in consultation with advisor. Raghavan also discussed a currently offered Leadership course in Biomedical Engineering that could be used as a model for some of the proposed initiatives. A College Advisory Board member also suggested using performing arts to help students connect to audience.

Butler also mentioned other possible strategies to consider including directly connecting faculty to students with our low student/faculty ratio, and suggesting best way to educate faculty in objectives and encourage them to be leaders in the area. Quantitative metrics based on related activities are highly desirable especially in assessment at beginning and end of degrees. ACT has been working on developing tools that may help.
Lee proposed some members for the task force with representatives from all departments and a student member. The members will be appointed by the Dean and EFC. An external member may also be asked. Dean Butler will ask prospective members.

**New Business**

**New GEC Course:** Dean Scranton distributed a course proposal to be taught as a Humanities GEC course. The model for approval of such a course for a GEC requirement was established by the ‘History of Math’ course. This was approved by the Curriculum Committee and Associate Dean. Afterward, it was placed on the GEC list. This precedent did not require EFC or faculty vote.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 4:35 p.m.