Minutes of the Engineering Faulty Council Meeting
Meeting No. 15, Monday, February 9, 2009, 3210 SC

Present:  R. Valentine-Chair, N. Grosland, A. Guymon, S. Reddy, K.K. Choi, Dean P.B. Butler,
         Dean A. Scranton

1) The meeting was called to order by Rich Valentine at 1:35 p.m.

2) Minutes from Meeting No. 14 on January 26, 2009 were approved.

3) Dean Butler said that at this time the exact amount we will have to cut our budget is not
   known but colleges are being asked to plan for three levels:  5%, 7.5%, or 10%.  Since the
   College General Education Fund is about $19 million, these reductions amount to roughly
   $500K, $750K, or $1 million, respectively.  Additionally Dean Butler stated that whatever
   cuts occur, we should plan that this situation would continue for a number of years.  To
   absorb this budget cut, the first option is to cut or reduce programs that are supported by the
   College General Education fund.  He explained that GEF funds are used in 15 categories of
   expenses and then discussed with EFC which areas seem most expendable.  An additional
   mechanism for reducing the GEF budget is to reduce the amount dedicated to faculty salaries
   either by instituting a furlough or by imposing an actual salary reduction.  Once this option is
   taken, it will last until the budget problem disappears.  He said that a 1% salary cut will be
   equivalent approximately to $150K per year.  If the College takes this option, he said the
   faculty recruitment will continue.  Otherwise, there could be freeze on faculty recruitment.
   The third strategy could be to use research support to offset other reductions in the budget
   such as instituting some sort of salary buyout plan.

4) Meeting adjourned at 2:38 p.m.