MINUTES
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING FACULTY ORGANIZATION
(CEFO)
Tuesday, February 18, 2020, 11:30 AM
Lunch available at 11:15 AM
Duke 345

The following individuals signed the attendance sheet:

(48 Attendees)

AGENDA:

1. Welcome and short remarks from CEFO – Carlos Orozco, President

Carlos Orozco called the meeting to order at 11:30 AM.

2. Update One IT - Bill Ardern, Director of Mosaic Computing

Start starting July 1st, 2020, mosaic services will be moved under OneIT. Bill Ardern will be in charge of the College of Engineering IT under a new OneIT business relationship leader (position vacant). The transition process will be done in a “cautious and measured way”.

During the IT meeting on February 14 only the reporting path had been changed, no other changes to the Mosaic IT were introduced. The budget and activities remain as usual.

Four working groups were created: human resources, financial, communication, and customer service. Customer service will be centralized for desktop support, endpoint support (devices), and the help desk. Support for the computing cluster access by the CoE ends, a new agreement is needed.

33 computer labs are funded by the academic affairs, they have a dedicated IT support team. Mosaic labs will be opened to all students, but there are concerns about licensing of specialized software.

Bill asked for suggestions on what the faculty would like the IT to do regarding labs, standalone computers with licenses are an option.

There are no plans for a research cluster computer at the CoE. This is to be defined, including the funding model and the course of action. Faculty had concerns about the OneIT customer service, not sure how the feedback shall be provided, what are the channels of communications.
Enterprise service catalog updates were requested - Bill Arden offered to be the point of contact. There were also concerns about internet connected devices inability to log into the campus networks.

Training and updates for users will be provided. A question was also asked about increase of the computer storage. Right now, there is only 25 gigabytes on mosaic system available to students. Storage requests will be handled by OneIT. Cloud storage is also available.

More information on transition to OneIT is available at:

https://itservices.uncc.edu/office-oneit

3. Presentation on Faculty Activity Reporting System - Lori McMahon, Associate Provost for Academic Affairs Budget and Personnel

A project is underway on providing a streamlined process for assessment and accreditation (SACS, individual programs), reappointment, promotion and tenure processes, faculty information (expertise, service activities, dossier, CV, websites). The outcome will be in a form of a platform similar to “Interfolio” or “Digital Measures” commercial products. The POC for the CoE is Dean Ron Smelser.

The pilot of the platform will be deployed first in the UUNC Charlotte College of Business, the expected rollout to the UNC Charlotte in Sep. 2022. A project website will be activated soon, with ability for employees to ask questions about the project.


Career Center introduced a new model for student career communities based on common interest (i.e. engineering, manufacturing, energy and other topics).

Drop-in meeting hours for students are M-F, 10 AM – 3 PM in Atkins 150, no appointment needed. Any topic related to career, first-come, first-serve.

The Career Meet Up Program is also available, in three different focus areas: general career-related topics, career community-focused topics, and industry-related topics. The schedule is posted at https://career.uncc.edu/meetups.

Faculty can request a presentation on career development from career services. The Career Center can accommodate up to two (2) presentations per class/group per semester, requests must be made no less than two weeks in advance, and the presentations should be no earlier than 8:00 am and start no later than 7:30 pm.

Career Center organizes site tours, mock interviews, hiring events, internships, meetings with alumni, alumni panels, etc.

More information: https://career.uncc.edu

5. Approval of past minutes (11/19/2019) – Maciej Noras, Secretary

Minutes approved unanimously. Minutes are available at https://engr.uncc.edu/faculty-and-staff/cefo-faculty-organization/cefo-meeting-minutes

6. College Update - Dean Robert Johnson.

External research funding in the CoE was $16.5M in 2019, $12.5 M to date in 2020.
Enrollment in Fall 2019 was down by 4.5% (3% drop in undergraduate, 12.5% drop in graduate programs).

Significant drop in international students enrollment, more effort in recruiting is needed. A proposal was made to the UNC Charlotte Academic Affairs to obtain matching funds for MS students (2-year pilot), and the proposal was approved.

Dean Johnson appealed to the faculty to recruit students.

There is no state budget passed to date for 2020, holding the vacant positions to sustain funding of the college.

Senior Design space was made available in former CAB (cafeteria), several thousands sq. ft.

Eric Huhn was introduced by the Dean as the new CoE Facilities and Safety Engineer.

The new Dean search is under way. Dean Johnson is transitioning to a new position as the National Academies Jefferson Fellow with the US Dept. of State, starting on June 30, 2020.

6. Meeting adjourned at 1:50 pm.