Faculty Meeting Notes  
Monday, October 16, 2017  
IMS Room 159 – 10:30 a.m.

I. **Meeting Call to Order:** Rainer Hebert – 10:30am

II. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** Rainer Hebert - Approved

III. **Advising Updates:** Mariel Zoni and Whitney Losapio  
A. **Sandbox System**  
   I. Can be used to schedule appointments as well as saving notes from advising meetings. (make sure to note anything important such as approvals of any kind)  
   II. You do have to search for your advisee in the system, they do not automatically show up for you.  
   III. You should update your preferences such as booking confirmations and cancellation notifications.  
   IV. No shows – Mariel and Whitney are going to look into officially notating this in the system, for now please add to the notes section.

B. **Approving Plans of Study**  
   I. Double Major Issues - the system has not been pulling the information accurately for plans of study for double majors. The Registrar is looking into this. For now faculty need to manually enter these into the system.  
   II. Minors - If the student is an MSE major and has a minor from a different department, you only need to review and approve the MSE portion.

IV. **Undergraduate Updates:** Serge Nakhmanson  
A. **Previous and next open houses: coming up Oct. 29**  
   I. First Open House was October 1st – Positive feedback on the organization of the event from guests. Average number of guests compared to past years.  
   II. Organizers of this event are expecting a larger crowd for the second Open House on October 29th.

B. **ENGR1000 OCPs**  
   I. MSE was asked to present 6 out of class presentations (OCPs) and 6 demos during the month of November.  
   II. OCPs will be as follows:  
      I. **Thursday Nov 2, 3:30 – 4:20:**  
         I. Metal Additive Manufacturing (Rainer Herbert) - IPB Tech Park  
         II. 3-D Printing and Scanning demo (Adam Wentworth) – E2-303  
      II. **Friday Nov 3, 1:25 – 2:15:**  
         I. Nanomaterials for Energy, Environmental and Biomed Applications (Puxian Gao) – IMS-147B  
         II. 3-D Printing and Scanning demo (Adam Wentworth) – E2-303  
      III. **Thursday Nov 9, 3:30 – 4:20:**  
         I. Materials Discovery (Rampi Ramprasad) – IMS-147A  
         II. 3-D Printing and Scanning demo (Adam Wentworth) – E2-303  
      IV. **Friday Nov 10, 1:25 – 2:15:**  
         I. Alloy Casting (Hal Brody) – IMS-015  
         II. 3-D Printing and Scanning demo (Adam Wentworth) – E2-303
V. **Thursday Nov 30, 3:30 – 4:20:**
   I. Electroactive Ceramics (George Rossetti) – IMS-147A
   II. 3-D Printing and Scanning demo (Adam Wentworth) – E2-303

VI. **Friday Dec 1, 1:25 – 2:15:**
   I. Center for Advanced Microscopy and Materials Analysis Tour (Roger Ristau) – IMS CAMMA Lab
   II. 3-D Printing and Scanning demo (Adam Wentworth) – E2-303

C. MSE-4003 disappearance
   I. MSE 4003W was an older class that was supposed to be retired, however due to the similar course numbers, MSE 4003 was also deleted from the system by mistake.
   II. MSE 4003 is still a requirement and is currently being added back to our catalog.
      I. Mariel is in contact with the Registrar to correct this as soon as possible.

V. **Department Head Search:** Puxian Gao
   A. Q&A session with candidate (Bryan) on his vision to the department
      I. Bryan’s presentation used during faculty meeting is attached.
      II. Bryan lead a discussion on his 6 main priorities and his vision for the department
         I. Discussion points included:
            I. Potential areas in need of hiring additional faculty.
            II. The establishment of an Associate Department head to help disperse the administrative duties of the Department Head, the Director of Undergraduate Studies, and the Director of Graduate Studies.
            III. Ideas for further funding for the department including alumni donations, certificate programs, and utilizing senior design projects.
            IV. Ways to further encourage cross-group and interdisciplinary exchanges including biweekly lunchtime gatherings.
            V. Potential changes to the MEng program including implementing some strictly online courses versus hybrid online/in-person courses.
               ii. Discussion on how to compensate faculty for these courses.
               iii. Could this be another way to generate revenue for the department?
   B. Status report, faculty discussion and recommendation
      I. Faculty votes were due by noon on Tuesday, October 17th.
      II. Next steps would be the search committee’s recommendation to the Dean.

VI. **ABET:** Rainer Hebert
   A. Need to schedule a separate meeting for further discussion on ABET.
      I. Faculty needs to begin collecting all materials for the ABET review.
      II. There will be NO dry run this time, only the official review in Fall 2019.
   B. The vote on the A-K edits is taking place this month (October).
      I. A-K edits basically bundle the old list into fewer criteria.
II. Dan Burkey recommended following the current ABET criteria and switching to the new ABET criteria next semester (Spring 2018) if the A-K edits are approved.

VII. **Concentrations**: Serge Nakhmanson  
A. **Scheduling conflicts**  
   I. Concentrations are not functioning the way they were meant to be.  
   II. The department does not have the capacity to teach all required courses for concentrations at this time.

B. **Impact on ABET**  
   I. If we are advertising that we are offering concentrations, but not offering the courses required to obtain those concentrations, this will be an issue during our ABET review.

C. **Value to students and employers?**  
   I. Peer institutions do not offer concentrations.  
   II. Although concentrations are not the norm, it does help our department stand out for potential applicants.  
   III. Some employers do check to see if applicants have our Metallurgy concentration.

D. **Possible changes in concentration areas and class requirements?**  
   I. Some of our concentrations have more options of courses to choose from than others, could we potentially offer more variety of courses to keep the concentrations?  
      I. Discussion on potentially opening up introductory level graduate courses to undergrads to help satisfy the concentration requirements.  
         I. Point made that this would limit the courses for our undergrads who are interested in coming to UConn for our graduate program.
   
   II. Recommendation made to terminate all concentrations except for Metallurgy as this is the most popular concentration.  
      I. Point made that it’s odd to only offer one concentration and may give the impression that we favor our Metallurgy courses over our other areas.
   
   III. Motion to no longer offer any concentrations – Approved  
      I. Need to clarify which students this will be applicable for as concentrations were technically offered to current students.

**Meeting adjourned: 12:00pm**