Minutes of the
Department of Materials Science and Engineering Faculty Meeting
Monday, October 19, 2015
IMS Room 147A

Attendance: Faculty: Mark Aindow, Pamir Alpay, Pu-Xian Gao, Rainer Hebert, Bryan Huey, Seok-Woo Lee, Radenka Maric, Serge Nakhmanson, George Rossetti, Prabhakar Singh; Staff: Cathy McCrackan, Lorri Lafontaine

I. Meeting called to order by Pamir Alpay at 11:00 a.m.

II. Minutes of the meeting of September 28, 2015 were approved as written.

III. Departmental Updates: Pamir Alpay
A. Manufacturing Engineering Minor: Pamir Alpay reported Dean Kazerounian shared Pratt & Whitney is eager to reinstate the manufacturing minor (working document attached). ME and MSE are working on a proposal in connection with the Management and Engineering for Manufacturing (MEM) Program. Pamir Alpay suggested four potential MSE elective courses for the manufacturing minor: MSE 4004, 4005, 4021 and 4040 and recommended MEM 4225 as a core class. Discussion followed.
B. Seminars: Pamir Alpay noted two department heads will be visiting (Dr. Pawel Keblinski of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute on October 30 and Dr. Jonah Erlebacher of John Hopkins University on November 20). He asked faculty to meet with the department heads whenever possible as this is an important opportunity in increasing the department’s rankings.
C. Statement on Plagiarism: Following faculty review, the policy on plagiarism will be posted to the MSE website to serve as a helpful tool for faculty and students.

IV. MRSEC Strategy: Mark Aindow stated traditionally faculty would wait for the call for papers to apply for Materials Research Science and Engineering Center (MRSEC) grants. After planning with the Office of the Vice Provost for Research (OVPR), this cycle will change. Planning will begin in advance of the call for papers and seed support will be given. Rampi Ramprasad has been appointed as a leader of MRSEC activity. Institutional Review Board (IRB) applications will be evaluated by Hanover Grants, who provide good feedback and line-by-line solicitation. MRSEC proposals will be ready to go before announcements are made. Mark Aindow noted successful proposals run independently.

V. Undergraduate Issues
A. Freshman Curriculum Revision: Rainer Hebert shared the SoE proposal for a Revised Freshman Curriculum in Engineering at UConn (attached). He noted a survey was done analyzing Universities where students began immediately in their major versus beginning in an interdisciplinary curriculum and there were no conclusions. The proposal would be reviewed again at a future SoE Faculty Meeting.

VI. Graduate Issues
A. Approval of Changes for Graduate Course Catalog: Bryan Huey moved to:
1) Delete “Students in this course receive a grade of S (Satisfactory) or U (Unsatisfactory)” from the description of “MSE 6401 - Graduate Seminars in Materials Science and Engineering.”
2) Add new course, “MSE 5001 - Principles of Materials Engineering: Accelerated introduction to Materials Science and Engineer Concepts, including: structures and defects; phase diagrams; mechanical properties; electronic properties; magnetic properties; optical properties; thermal properties; functional materials; metals and alloys; ceramics; polymers; and composites.”
The motion was seconded by Mark Aindow and approved unanimously by faculty.
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VI. Graduate Issues continued

B. Additional Graduate Courses: Bryan Huey asked faculty to review the current list of graduate courses in the catalog for additions or deletions of courses offered before 2005.

C. Graduate Faculty Requirements: Bryan Huey shared the proposed policy on MSE Graduate Faculty appointment requirements (attached), which would follow with an electronic faculty vote. After faculty discussion, a peer review for all MSE graduate faculty, including core faculty, would be done.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorri Lafontaine
Administrative Services Specialist