

Engineering Student Technology Committee (ESTC):
(<http://www.engr.colostate.edu/ESTC/>)

Meeting minutes for April 2, 2003 - Eng. Conference Room - 7:45am

Present: Morgan Defoort (ME), Prof. Garcia (CE), Miranda Grote (intra),
Tim Hinerman (ME), Shawn Klawitter (ChemE), Kate McDonnell (ECE),
Arun Nair (CE), Mark Ritschard (ENS), Prof. Sakurai (ME),
Prof. Siller (Academic Affairs), David Wiegandt (ECE) - chair,
Prof. Wilmsen (ECE),

Absent: Derek Akerhielm (ChemE), Kat Christian (CE), Michael Flick (CE),
David Hodge (ChemE), Jennifer Meints (intra), J. P. Murray (ECE),
Derek Reding (ME), Prof. Wickramasinghe (ChemE)

- Corrections to previous meetings minutes (3-5-03)

none

- Introductions:

New members Miranda Grote (intra) and Professor Siller were introduced to the committee. Miranda is the second intra-departmental representative and Prof. Siller will soon be the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs upon the retirement of Prof. Gessler.

Updates:

- Status of cafe laptop stations & couches, lab signs, and Cafe signs
Ritschard reported that the cafe laptop stations are in and he

hopes they will be installed within the next couple of weeks. The new couches arrived and have been installed. The lab signs indicating funding are being installed by ENS student technicians and the Cafe signs "will ship next week" for the last three weeks.

- Status of laptop and ERC printer

Both are here; the laptop is available for loan and the ERC printer is installed.

From Last time:

- GIS lab feedback from CE

No reply has been heard from CE; so the issue will be delayed until the next meeting.

- Timing of printer hasp installation

Brent Massey, ENS Lab Manager, has requested that the hasps not be installed until the summer, because of the current work load on student employees. The committee agreed that the summer was fine.

- Cost of a graphics workstation (in view of graphics card proposal)

Per the committee's request, Ritschard reported that a graphics workstation is approximately \$6000. This is in comparison to purchasing a high-end graphics card at \$2000 and a regular PC at about \$1200.

- LMDS large plotter

Siller reported that the Design Team that oversees the LMDS would like to leave the plotter in the studio and supply it with paper. The Team believes that the lack of use has been a reflection of how hard it is to get paper for the plotter. The committee had agreed to supply paper at the last meeting and ENS has already purchased and installed the paper. If the plotter still does not get used, then the Team is willing to consider relocating the plotter. Ritschard reported that the paper in the plotters is low-end 20lb. paper that will likely not do well for prints with lots of color. He asked that students provide feedback on whether higher quality paper should be used. Although it is considerably more expensive, the actual cost to students per plot may be worth the expense.

The committee requested that Ritschard send an e-mail message to the students letting them know of the change with the plotter. It was also requested that information be included about the new laptop.

- Project suggestion/discussion for this year's funds

Wiegandt distributed copies (attached) of a request from Civil Engineering for project funds. The proposal is to help develop an environmental engineering water quality laboratory and requests funding from both the intra-departmental allocation and the strategic funds allocation. Siller noted that environmental engineering is definitely a focus for the college and that the request would be a good use of the intra-departmental funds. He believes that the lab is a good long-term move, in that students now have to go to

the ERC to work with an environmental lab.

Siller noted that the current intra-departmental programs are Biomedical Engineering, Engineering Science (Engineering Physics, Space Engineering, & Dual Degree Program), and Environmental Engineering. He said that he would check on other possible needs prior to next week's meeting.

Hinerman said that he talked with the Academic Advancement Center and that they would be happy to accept old Engineering computers even if they have no operating system. After some discussion, Hinerman moved and Defoort seconded that the college donate 10 used systems to the Center this coming summer. The 10 will be ones that are replaced through the regular Lab equipment replacement process. The motion passed unanimously.

Ritschard agreed to send a summary list of all the proposals. Committee members are asked to rank the proposals and send their rankings to Ritschard. The combined rankings will then serve as a basis for the discussion at the next meeting.

- Possible visit to Engines Lab

In light of the proposal from the Engines Lab, the committee will meet at the lab at 4:30 this afternoon for a brief tour and presentation by Defoort.

New Items:

- Placement of digital sender

Ritschard reported that a new digital sender is available and wanted to know where the committee would like it placed. Hinerman moved and Defoort seconded that it be placed in the Internet Cafe. The motion passed unanimously.

From the floor:

-Report from Faculty Technology Committee

Garcia, chair of the College of Engineering Technology Committee (CETC) explained that CETC both looks at strategic directions for technology for the college and serves as an advisory committee to ENS. In its last meeting the committee discussed the need to change the Electronic Classroom (C211) to improve the teaching atmosphere. Ideas discussed were reducing the number of seats in C211, splitting the Anderson Lab between a classroom and a general lab, and swapping the current space for another. Siller is also exploring another option of working with the Office of Instructional Services to share a common classroom. The idea would be that the college gets first priority and then other colleges would also have access. Ritschard is working with his peers to overcome the problems of any student getting access to any college from a given campus network. Both Ritschard and Siller will be talking with Dr. Abt, the Executive Associate Dean, to discuss the space possibilities.

Hinerman noted that it might be a bad idea to change the Anderson lab because it's nice to have space available for groups. The Lockheed Martin Design Studio is often full with upperclassmen

and it's nice to have the Anderson Lab for underclass groups work. Ritschard noted that there are over 100 spots for computers in the lab and currently only 80 seats. Therefore, adding a classroom would likely not reduce the number of seats in the lab.

-Status of vendor in Internet Cafe

Ritschard and Wiegandt are working with the University ID Office to see how a vendor can be brought into the cafe. Ritschard will be meeting with the Lory Student Center vendor to see if they would like to sell in the Cafe. Based on current vending sales, it is likely they will say no. There is also the possibility of participating in a contract that Vet Med has with Gib's Bagels. Ritschard will soon be looking into that possibility.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, April 9, at 7:45am.

Respectfully submitted by
Mark Ritschard



CE water lab proposal 3-03.pdf

March 25, 2003

To: Mark Ritschard

From: Sandra Woods 
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Re: Tech Resource Fees – Proposal

Per our conversation earlier this month, I am writing to formally request the use of Tech Resource Fees for the development of an environmental engineering water quality laboratory in B-10 Engineering Building. This laboratory will be used to teach laboratories for students in three primary majors – environmental engineering, civil engineering, and bioresource and agricultural engineering. However, students in many other majors will benefit. For example, chemical engineering students are currently enrolled in an environmental engineering class that is taught each year (CE 496) and would be offered in this facility.

Currently, students must make a 40 minute round trip to the Engineering Research Center to use environmental engineering equipment and facilities. Often, faculty limit laboratory exercises due to the lack of an on-campus facility and equipment. At this time, Engr B-10 is used by the Department of Mechanical Engineering to build racecars. The Departments of Civil and Mechanical Engineering have traded space to allow B-10 to be converted to a teaching laboratory. We are currently seeking funds for laboratory benches and remodeling from other sources. This request for Tech Resource Fees will allow us to purchase analytical equipment necessary to develop several laboratory exercises.

This request is based on an assumption of 8 laboratory groups of two to four students each. Therefore, for some equipment (such as pH meters), eight are required. Other, more expensive equipment can be shared and only one or two may be required (such as spectrophotometers or ovens).

A request is attached. It represents one-fourth to one-third of the total equipment cost for this laboratory. We anticipate developing capabilities in stages and will make additional requests in the future. The Department of Civil Engineering requests that the committee provide funds from two sources: (1) funds set aside for interdisciplinary majors such as environmental engineering and (2) general funds that are available to the college as a whole. The Department will use a portion of its Tech Resource Fee allocation for this purpose as well.

If you need additional information, please contact me at Sandra.Woods@colostate.edu.

cc: Luis Garcia, Tom Siller, Johannes Gessler

Budget Request - Environmental Engineering Teaching Laboratory

Equipment	Page	Number	Amount	Total	Expected Total
Oven	1054	\$ 2,171	1 \$	2,171	\$ 1,845
Muffle Furnace*		\$ 5,000	1 \$	5,000	\$ 4,250
Steam Table*		\$ 1,000	1 \$	1,000	\$ 850
UV-Vis Spectrophotometer	1525	\$ 3,800	2 \$	7,600	\$ 6,460
pH/mV/Temperature meters/electrodes	1125	\$ 1,052	8 \$	8,416	\$ 7,154
Pumps*		\$ 800	8 \$	6,400	\$ 5,440
Totals				\$ 30,587	\$ 25,999

* Expected cost - not in VWR catalog
 The "Expected Total" is an estimate given a VWR discount, shipping, etc.
 Assumes 8 laboratory groups
 VWR Catalog 2003-2004 = source