Engineering Student Technology Committee

Meeting Minutes for April 21, 2005
Lockheed Martin Design Studio, 4:00pm

Present: Bryce Eldridge (ECE), Ryan Fleming, chair (CE), Mike Floren (ChemE), Henrik Forsling (CE), Derek Johnson (ChemE), Amanda Kaiser (ME), Mark Ritschard (ENS), Russ Schumacher (Atmos), Luke Van Roekel (Atmos), guest Dan Herrick (ENS)

Absent: Prof. David Alciatore (ME), David Bryant (ME), Prof. Jeff Collett (Atmos), Prof. Darrell Fontane (CE), Kendra Gabbert (CE), Klaus Hartinger (ECE), Doug Hopper (ME), Prof. Kevin Lear (ECE), David Miller (ChemE), Heidi Shray (ECE), Dr. Tom Siller (Academic Affairs), Prof. David Wang (ChemE), Intra-departmental undergraduate (two unfilled)

Graduate Scholarships - From Previous Meeting
Since the decision not to award scholarships from CFT funds, the charge will decrease by 10% to approximately $139.00. The graduate scholarships that remain to be awarded will be handled on a departmental basis, with no scholarship being more than $1400. A motion from the last meeting to equally divide the remaining scholarship money between the departments was voted upon and passed unanimously.

Previous Meeting Minutes
The committee came to a consensus to accept the minutes from the meetings on 2-17-2005, 3-8-2005, and 3-30-2005 with no changes.

Funded Equipment Review (Continued)
Ritschard ran through the budget again, to clarify the process for those members not present at the previous meeting. Other than the changes made to the Anderson lab at the last meeting, the only further discussion was about possibly adding Macintosh laptops to the loaner pool. This idea did not catch on, however, and was not considered further. A note was made that MS Office is back in the Internet Cafe, and that new Sunrays with upgraded graphics cards and USB functionality will be installed this summer.

Budget Review
Ritschard explained the structure of the budget, and requested an increase in network maintenance costs from $4k to $6k for next year. There was some discussion about the software budget currently allocated to each department, which consists of $5k. The departments always spend more than that on software, and it was generally felt that they might appreciate some extra money in that area to better support their labs. Kaiser moved to put $5k of the strategic initiatives money into the department software budget. Schumacher seconded, and a vote was called. There were 4 votes for and 6 against, so the motion failed.

A vote was called to approve the final Fiscal Year 06 Budget with 9 for and 1 against. The FY06 budget now stands approved for a total of $495,000 as follows:
Assistive Technology $2,000
Central Services & Systems
  Computer Lab Equip. Replacement $165,000
  Laboratory Maintenance & Support $23,000
  Network Maintenance $6,000
  Server Maintenance & Support $70,000
  Student Wages $70,000
Department Allocations
  Atmospheric Science $20,000
  Chemical Engineering $19,700
  Civil Engineering $31,800
  Electrical & Computer Engineering $17,500
  Intra-departmental majors $5,000
  Mechanical Engineering $41,000
Strategic Initiatives $24,000

Next Year's Charge for Technology
A motion from the last meeting to raise the fee to an even $140 was voted upon, and failed unanimously. There was some discussion about raising the fee to save money to support the new academic village, countered by some arguments against raising the fee in light of general fee increases and overall recruitment concerns.

Van Roekel moved to raise the fee to $142 as a compromise, which would result in additional revenue of approximately $9k. Floren seconded, and the motion passed with one abstention.

Kaiser then moved to designate $10k specifically for the new Academic Village. This money would not be used for any other purpose. Forsling seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

C211 Lab Improvement
At this point there was approximately $20k left in the strategic initiatives fund, and a motion from the last meeting called for $12k to improve the lab in C211. This motion was voted upon, and failed unanimously. A new motion was made by Kaiser to use $20k for the C211 improvement, which would include new desks and flat panel monitors. Eldridge seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Another motion from the last meeting was discussed to use $6k for buying SmartBoards for C211, the GIS lab, and the Internet Café conference room. The committee decided to vote on each of these labs separately. The GIS motion failed with 2 for, 5 against, and 2 abstentions. The C211 motion failed with 4 for and 5 against. The Internet Cafe motion failed with 1 for, 7 against, and 1 abstention.

Fleming then moved to set aside $1.8k for a SmartBoard in C211 but to not purchase it now. Van Roekel seconded, and the motion passed with 8 for and 1 against. The ESTC next year has the option to overturn this motion should it be determined that use of the room does not warrant a SmartBoard.

Security in LMDS
Dan Herrick from ENS informed the committee of several vandalization events that took place after E-days this year. Some hooligans spray-painted in two of the labs, and there were some natural concerns about the safety of the equipment and the people in the ENS labs. This committee has discussed this issue before, and security cameras were brought up as an option. Ritschard had done some research about security systems, and found a system for around $12k that would be adequate. Other departments at CSU have used this system with great success, and installing such a system would thwart
all but the most determined of hooligans. ENS would install and maintain this system, and it is entirely likely that the Lockheed Martin Design Studio faculty committee would end up helping to pay for this system. Security is one of their main concerns, and the money currently designated for LMDS is tied up until these concerns are resolved. There were some privacy concerns, but only qualified ENS personnel would have access to the camera system, and access would not be available to the student body.

Kaiser moved to approve the $12k for the system from strategic initiatives. Forsling seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Hopefully this measure will eliminate any further hooliganizing of the labs.

New Chairperson

Fleming is graduating this year, so a new chairperson needed to be chosen for the 2005-2006 year. Ritschard nominated Kaiser, and she accepted. The committee voted, and Kaiser was elected as the ESTC chair for next year. Positions that still need to be filled next year are

- Atmos – 1 grad
- ChemE - 1 undergrad, 1 grad
- Civil - 1 undergrad, 1 professor
- ME - 1 undergrad, 1 grad
- EE - 1 undergrad, 1 grad

Meeting Adjourned

This was the final ESTC meeting for the 2004-2005 school year!

Submitted by
Bryce Eldridge