Meeting Minutes of the Engineering Student Technology Committee (ESTC)

Meeting: 20 September 2013
5:00 p.m. in Engineering B214 (Engineering Dean's Conference Room)

In Attendance: Professor Rebecca Atadero (CE), Brett Baeverstad (CBE), Brett Basarab (ATS), Sanjay Derbyshire (ECE), Vaishak Gopi (CE), Dan Herrick (ENS, ex officio), Valene Lickley (CE), Sunny Lunka (CBE), Mark Lunt (CBE), Alex Mitchell (ME), Dalton Noren (Intra-departmental), Professor Chris O'Dell (ATS), Professor Sudeep Pasricha (ECE), Professor Christopher Snow (CBE), Tyler Wible (CE)

Not in Attendance: Nicholas Davis (ATS), Patrick Fitzhorn (ME), Tanner Fretthold (ME), Ryan Friese (ECE), Ben Melia (Intra-departmental), Professor Tom Siller (ADAA, ex officio), Patrick Stockton (ECE), Jessica Tryner (ME)

Guests: Angie Addie (ENS)

Review of Committee Purpose & Responsibilities

Herrick gave a review of the Engineering Student Technology Committee, the website, the purpose of the committee, and the responsibilities. The ESTC's main responsibility is setting the budget for each year. This year's budget, which was set by last year's committee, is $765,000. The ESTC also sets policies for the college concerning technology.

Approval of Previous Minutes

Minutes were approved for 4/29/13

University Charge for Technology (UCFT) membership

Herrick explained the responsibilities of serving on the University Charge for Technology Committee and asked for a volunteer. Mitchell volunteered to serve as the representative from the College of Engineering on the UCFT. A motion was made to approve Mitchell's service as Engineering's representative. The motion was seconded and passed.

Updates on funded projects

Herrick provided an update on the projects that were funded in the Spring of 2013. There was discussion of the funding that was approved for the purchase of High Power DC Modules for the EcoCAR project last year which has yet to be spent. Herrick asked the committee how they would like to handle the unspent funds. The committee made a motion to give Professor Bradley until the end of October to spend the money or the money would be added back into the unallocated pool of funds. The motion was passed.

There was discussion of when to begin the proposal solicitation process and what deadlines should be given to groups to spend the funds. A decision was made by the group to go ahead and put out a call for proposals and accept proposals until the end of December. A motion was made to issue a call for proposals. The motion passed.

Upcoming Topics

Budget Review - Herrick reviewed the budget and explained how the committee decides to allocate the funds. Herrick explained that there will be more in-depth reviews and discussion of individual budget line items in the Spring semester.

Lockers in some lab spaces
Vaishak brought up a need he identified for placing lockers in BC-Infill/Internet cafe.

Refrigerator
Vaishak discussed a need for refrigeration for students to store food.

ESTC share in research compute cluster Windows node
Herrick discussed the Engineering research compute cluster as it is currently configured and an option to add Windows nodes to the cluster. There was discussion around the potential need for additional Windows nodes on the cluster.

Perceptive Pixel large scale multi-touch systems by Microsoft
Gopi and Herrick discussed the Perceptive Pixel product. It is intended to be a replacement for smart boards. It is essentially a large touch screen. Everyone agreed that it is a cool technology but would not be a practical product for the ESTC to purchase.

Meeting adjourned - 5:53 p.m.