Meeting minutes of the Engineering Student Technology Committee (ESTC)

Meeting: December 2, 2014
6:00 p.m. in Scott Bioengineering 203 (Board Room)

In attendance: Sean Brustuen (CE), Daniel Dauwe (ECE), Kristine Fischenich (SBME), Dan Herrick (ENS, ex officio), Adam Kattnig (ECE), Arunachalam Lakshminarayanan (ME), Mark Lunt (CBE), Professor Chris O’Dell (ATS), Brad Reichel (CE), Professor Sourajeet Roy (ECE)

Not in attendance: Professor Rebecca Atadero (CE), Abdullah BaGais (CBE), Briana Chamberlain (CBE), Professor Patrick Fitzhorn (ME), Landan MacDonald (ATS), Alex Mitchell (ME), Dalton Noren (Intra-departmental), James Ruppert (ATS), Professor Tom Siller (ADAA, ex officio), Aaron Smull (ECE), Professor Christopher Snow (CBE)

Guests: Angie Branson (ENS)

Approval of meeting minutes (10/28/14)
Minutes from 10/28/14 were approved.

Instructional Technologies Coordinator funding request
Herrick introduced a funding request for hiring an Instructional Technologies Coordinator. If approved, the position would be responsible for all instructional computing facilities in the College of Engineering and address some gaps in support for students and instructors. The primary duties of the position would include management of all labs computing equipment and furnishings; maintaining software builds in the computer labs; and supervising student employees. Enhanced roles will include rapid response to technical problems; assisting instructors in Engineering and General Assignment classrooms (wherever Engineering faculty/instructors teach); Learning Management System support and content development/management; distance education technology integration; assistance with software selection, use, and training; middleware integration; and senior design support.

There was discussion of the proposal and possible funding sources in addition to the ESTC budget. There was general agreement by the committee to continue pursuing the development of the position and gathering more information regarding fringe pool costs and college participation in funding position. Potential areas in the budget to reallocate from are student wages, strategic initiatives, and departmental allocations.

Internet Cafe Redesign
What are the priorities for the remodel? General consensus was to add more seats and more computers. There was a discussion of eliminating or reducing the size of the conference room. Potentially remove couches to allow for additional computer seating. Would like to get rid of the round tables in the center of the room (replace with bar w/computer seats or replace with modular furniture). Discussed reducing counter/sink footprint. Reichel volunteered to render a 3D model of the room.

Discussion
Several committee members are in favor of asking to open up B214 conference room to students for reservations.