

ESTC Minutes
Engineering Student Technology Committee
March 2, 2020
4-5pm
Engineering B101

Present:

ATS : Jhordanne Jones, Ben Toms
CBE : Taylor Baker, Prof. David Wang
CEE : Prof. Ryan Morrison
ECE : Carsten Dietvorst, Prof. Ryan Kim
ME : Michael Sartini, Sydney McDonald
SE : Jayesh Narsinghani, Prof. Jim Cale
Intra-departmental : Michael Townsend
SBME : Will Raymond
Ex-Officio : Kelley Branson (ETS)
Guest : Laura Marker (ETS), Nick Stratton (ETS)

Absent:

ATS : Prof. Michael Bell
CBE : Zeus Alcon, Yan Wang
CEE : Neelufar Aghazamani, Thomas Mayer, Hannah Gridley
ECE : Drew Rackow
ME : Caitlin Robinson, Prof. Haile Endeshaw
SE : Harshwardhan Ketkale
Intra-departmental :
SBME :
Ex-Officio : Dr. Anthony Marchese (Assoc Dean AA)

Old Business & Welcome

Welcome and Minutes

- Carsten Dietvorst called the meeting to order and welcomed new members.
- The minutes from the February 17, 2020 meeting were unanimously approved and will be posted to the ESTC website by Kelley. These and other ETSC documents are available to ESTC members at the following:

[T:\Committees\ESTC](#)

- Carsten noted that 1 ECE undergraduate and an intra-department undergraduate position remain unfilled. Please reach out to individuals in your department to help fill spaces.

CFT Account Update

Laura Marker updated the committee on the current FY20 CFT account. She urged representatives to make sure their departments know how much they have.

Engineering High Performance Computing (HPC) Cluster

Kelley let everyone know that the new HPC cluster, named asha, is partially funded by the ESTC and available to ALL Engineering students at no charge. It is a linux cluster on which you run batch programs. Please advertise this in your departments! To use it, submit an ETS help ticket and staff member Jeff Penn will help you out. The website for the HPC is here:

www.engr.colostate.edu/ets/asha-cluster

New Business

Budget Work for FY21

Thanks to a lot of work by ETS Program Coordinator Laura Marker, who is the fiscal officer for the CFT account, we got to the bottom of why we don't have \$170 per student per semester in our account current, last year and probably next year. Even though the CFT is a non-refundable charge, the Registrar's Office told us that refunds are routinely given automatically for a variety of reasons (partial student, drops, etc). We are even seeing refunds from fall semester and it is well into spring semester. We are seeing, over a 5-year average, \$158 per student into the account. So the budget we are currently spending (FY20) is well short of reality. But that is a budget and we will work with reality for this year.

Looking ahead to the FY21 budget we are working on for next year, we are projecting that we will be about \$200,000 short of what we had anticipated. Carsten and Kelley met last week and did some work on the FY21 budget to try to "balance" it. They presented the following suggestions:

1. Remove the Network line item from the systems infrastructure area on the main page of \$50,000. ETS spent quite a bit on network upgrades last year so taking this away for a year should be workable.
2. Remove the ERC UPS batteries line item from the Server sheet. These were just replaced in January which is why it is on there. This UPS in the ERC computer room supports college network drive backups. This was a drop in the bucket around \$5,000.
3. In the Department sheet, drop the total department allocation amount from \$200,000, which was a historic high, to \$70,000. Drop the 'base allocations' for each department from \$8,000 to \$3,000. Each department would be receiving around 35% of last

year's allocation.

Carsten and Kelley and hopefully Laura will be attending the University CFT Spring meeting next week and this is on the agenda for discussion. The Board of Governors approves the CFT charges each year and any changes to the UCFT manual which implies that the CFT is non-refundable and has a process for students to request refunds. Having them automatically refunded flies in the face of that. So a report will be given post-UCFT meeting and we will discuss everything at the next ESTC meeting.

There was a lot of discussion and explanation surrounding all of this not recorded here. Thought is that if we can reverse what is now being done with automatic refunds, we will bring back what was cut.

Due to the discussion, nothing else was approved in the FY21 budget.

Next Meeting

Dates for future meetings are:

March 26 Scott 229

April 6 Scott 203

Meeting was adjourned at 5pm.

Respectfully submitted by Carsten Dietvorst with modifications by Kelley Branson.