ESTC Minutes
Engineering Student Technology Committee
November 5, 2020
1-2pm
Microsoft Teams Meeting

Present:
ATS : Lee Brent, Kevin Yang, Prof. Michael Bell
CBE : Mason Vess, Lauren Robertson, Yan Wang, Prof. Jean Peccoud CEE : Claire Paschke, Lily Drum-Parce, Danny White, Prof. Ryan Morrison ECE : Drew Rackow (Chair), Peter Walsh, Yifan Yang, Prof. Ryan Kim
ME : Michael Sartini, Prof. Haile Endeshaw
SE : Jayesh Narsinghani, Prof. Jim Cale
Intra-departmental :
SBME : Will Raymond
Ex-Officio : Kelley Branson (ETS), Dr. Anthony Marchese (Assoc Dean AA) Guest : Laura Marker (ETS), Nick Stratton (ETS)
Absent:
ME : Sydney McDonald

Old Business & Welcome

Welcome and Minutes

• Welcome everyone!
• The minutes from the April 6 & 9, 2020 meetings 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
If you are unable to get into this drive space, let Kelley know.

ESTC Overview & Presentation

Kelley provided an overview of what the ESTC does with a presentation.
• Committee is made of Undergrad, Grad, and Faculty members plus two ex-officio members.
• to manage and distribute the Charge For Technology (CFT),
• help govern academic computing policies in the college,
• Reports to Dean of WSCOE and governed by CSU Charges for Technology Manual and is represented at UCFT
• Nick Stratton and Laura Marker from ETS provide expertise
• Full membership is on the ESTC website.

• List of places money goes - Special Projects
        - Large special projects

      - Strategic initiatives - money that is left after everything else is applied for and the ESTC votes on who gets it (lots of tough decisions for funding). Likely no funding for these this year.
      - Salaries that directly support students
      - Lab, Electronic Classroom & Studio computing
      - College servers that support labs and students, Virtual Classroom - Student printing supplies

• Logistics
      - Committee meets about once a month through winter, then twice a month in the spring
      - Has an agenda and sets dates and times for future meetings at the end of each meeting

What's in the budget?
Laura Marker, the fiscal officer for the ETS accounts, presented several graphs.
• AY20 (Academic Year 2019-2020) Revenue & Expenses
      - Pseudo-budget vs. right column of actual Rev/Exp.
      - Had a total of almost $1.24 Million, spent $1.042 Million for $192,560.22 remaining
      - Made note of "Nitrogen for Scott", see below.
      - $90K has been set aside for a new Senior Design space. This project has not gotten off the ground. This committee can let this sit in the account or reassign it. Dr. Anthony Marchese was the initial requestor.

• AY21 (This academic year) Budget -- table and pie chart
      - Red numbers are deficits, it is okay to have some places where they go over budget. If a department goes over their budget, that amount is subtracted from their following year's budget. If ETS goes over in a category, it will balance out with other categories.
      - Not funding furniture or network equipment replacement this year based on reduced budget
      - $188,796 Strategic Initiative deficit currently (which is the only category we can put this negative)
      - Fiscal Year: Runs July 1st (start of 3rd quarter) to June 30th

• Last five years of budgets were presented running from AY/FY17 - AY/FY21. We have been increasing the overall budget for more than five years due to increasing enrollment and a growing college. FY21 was the first decrease due to the pandemic
and resulting economic downturn. More cuts expected for FY22.

• Committee Members will receive a monthly email with fiscal information, balance remaining is always on far right. Email Laura with questions regarding these emails

Unfilled Positions
Some positions are still unfilled, work with department head
        ME has 1 undergrad missing
        System's Engineering has a grad missing
        Both Intradepartmental seats are missing

CETC Student Selection
A call for a grad student and undergrad for the College of Engineering Technology
Committee (CETC) was made. This committee advises and makes decisions on
technology to also include research and operations.
        Undergrad - Lily Drum-Parce
        Graduate - Jayesh Narsinghani

**REU - Research Experience for Undergraduates by the National Science
Foundation (NSF)**
Can these students use the CFT-funded resources during the summer even without
paying into the CFT?
Kelley's argument (in favor): The vast majority of these students don't use most things
funded by CFT, they span many programs across the college, and need is "not even a
drop in the bucket", they are potential CSU students. Drew mentions it is the polite thing
to do, potentially a scheduling setup if it became necessary. Prof. Bell pointed out there
are very few REU students and we are unlikely to see issues.
Drew motions to allow usage, Peter seconds, ~16 in favor and potentially 1 opposed;
passes

Overview of GPUs in college
4 members of committee use GPUs currently.
Nick Stratton and Kelley Branson did an informal meetup with department heads and
some faculty a year ago and a need for GPU resources was noted. Since Covid broke
out, many faculty are noting need for GPUs is skyrocketing/has skyrocketed.
Kelley Branson says Nick Stratton was instrumental in this process, took half of the
workstations in the labs and made them into a VCL GPU resource since when students
came back, we could only seat half capacity (or less) in the labs.
Kelley applied to UTFAB for 3 more GPUs to add to Linux Compute Pool or potentially 2
of them to Windows Compute Pool
Kelley and Dr. Sonia Kreidenweis applied for additional GPU resources for research
from a Vice President for Research (VPR) call for proposals (this proposal was not
funded -- Kelley found out after the ESTC meeting).
Used heavily by Systems Engineering and others for machine learning, virtual reality, 3d
modelling.

Nitrogen Tank in Scott
ESTC was asked to provide $10k in funding for this tank which sat in the Scott Bio
loading dock for a number of years and it became a line item on our budget. This

summer, it was determined that not enough nitrogen was being used and much of it was lost in the plumbing. Decision was made to remove the tank and go with small tanks in the Scott labs. We will remove this from the FY22 ESTC budget which will save us approximately $10K in the current fiscal year and beyond (of course).

Next Meeting
Online ESTC meeting may take place in December if there is urgent business. Otherwise we'll start up again a couple weeks into Spring Semester.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:55pm.

Respectfully submitted by Lilly Drum-Parce and Peter Walsh with additions from Kelley Branson