

**ESTC Minutes**  
*Engineering Student Technology Committee*  
March 21, 2022  
3-4pm  
Microsoft Teams Meeting

**Present:**

ATS : Prof. Elizabeth Barnes, Kevin Yang  
CBE :  
CEE : Danny White  
ECE : Peter Walsh (Chair), Yifan Yang, Prof. Mahdi Nikdas  
ME : Olivia Brown, Prof. Kirk McGilvray  
SE : Prof. Daniel Herber  
SBME :Jaiden Oropallo  
Ex-Officio : Kelley Branson (ETS)  
Guests : Nick Stratton (ETS)

**Absent:**

ATS : Lee Brent  
CBE : Mason Vess, Lauren Robertson, Parsa Ghadermazi, Prof. Jean Peccoud  
CEE : Claire Paschke, Lily Drum-Parce, Prof. Aditi Bhaskar  
ECE : Ross Leopold, Miguel Valles Castro  
ME :  
SE : Hamza Ahmed  
Ex-Officio : Prof. Karan Venayagamoorthy (Academic Affs)

**Old Business & Welcome**

**Welcome and Minutes**

- Peter welcomed the members attending and it was noted we have quorum. Olivia Brown offered to take minutes.
  
- The minutes from the March 8, 2022 meeting were 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.

**Old Business & Announcements**

- Unfilled positions were noted:
  - Systems Engineering graduate student
  - ECE undergraduate

- UTFAB (University Technology Fee Advisory Board) GPU Proposal: No update.
- April 19 meeting is at 1pm. Kelley is trying to get a room for a hybrid meeting potentially with lunch. (Update - struck out on a room. If it's nice we will still try to do lunch outside.) This will be followed by a tour of the Scott Data Center at 2pm for those who can make it. We can do another tour at a later time if there is interest for those who cannot make 2pm.

## New Business

### FY23 Budget

Work continued on the FY23 budget:

- Loaner Pool equipment numbers were adjusted down per recommendation from ETS Client Services Manager Lisa Metz. This saved the budget about \$1000. -- approved as calculated.
- Academic Technology Manager salary - approved.
- Student wages as previously budgeted has been very low. Kelley noted that ETS did a “salary exercise” and adjusted the wages sheet to reflect real life (State increases in minimum wage primarily). — approved as calculated.
- I2P 3D Printing Lab line of \$30K approved.
- Software - Showed breakdown of costs. The software provided in part by the CFT can be removed to save money but then another method of paying for it would have to be found which might jeopardize software like Matlab and the Office Suite for student use. Nick and Kelley explained the costs and this was approved.
- At this point the Systems Network line item of \$50K and Department Allocations were the only unapproved items and we were ~\$168K in the negative. In order to balance the budget:
  - The committee approved removing the \$50K network line item for this year making it the third year in a row to do so.
  - Kelley modified the **expected** CFT from a low ball \$148/student/semester up to \$160 which is on the upper end of what we can expect but things like used equipment sales can cover this which is not included in the budget.
  - We talked about taking department allocations to zero for 2022/2023.

This last point is tough because the departments have come to depend on some CFT funding for things like software and labs hardware and supplies. The committee suspended voting on this to think things over and Kelley will meet with the Asst Dean for Operations Mark Ritschard to discuss.

- Peter suggested next year's committee may want to entertain raising the CFT. Kelley put up a graph showing that we have not raised CFT since it was raised to \$170 in 2007

and costs have increased significantly since that time. This committee could vote to suggest raising the CFT to the AY23 committee. This has to be formally requested to the University CFT committee in November of each year so it would not go into affect until July 1 of 2023.

### **Future meeting topics**

- Complete the FY23 budget (department allocations and balancing the budget)
- A look at the current account and if there is anything left for special projects:
  - new Anderson Lab
  - Scott Data Center final buildout

### **Next Meeting**

Next ESTC meeting is Tuesday April 12 at 1pm via Teams. Please join if you do not have a class or meetings.

Meeting was adjourned at 4pm.

*Respectfully submitted by Olivia Brown with modifications from Kelley Branson*