

**ESTC Minutes**  
*Engineering Student Technology Committee*  
October 28, 2022  
12-1pm Scott Bio 203

**Present:**

ATS : Nick Falk, Eric Goldenstern

CBE : Parsa Ghadermazi

CEE : Julie Robinson, Jiate Li, Prof. Aditi Bhaskar

ECE : Luke Shuttleworth, Aaron Davis, Amin Mahdian

ME : Miguel Valles Castro, Ross Leopold (Chair), Jaren Fleischman, Prof. Kirk McGilvray

SE : Prof. Daniel Herber, Fletcher Ouren

SBME :

Ex-Officio : Kelley Branson (ETS)

Guests : Nick Stratton (ETS), Laura Marker (ETS/College), Steve Johnson (ME/I2P)

**Absent:**

ATS : Prof. Elizabeth Barnes

CBE : Prof. Chris Snow

CEE : Branch DeMersseman

ECE : Prof. Mahdi Nikdast

ME :

SE :

SBME : Jaiden Oropallo

Ex-Officio : Prof. Karan Venayagamoorthy (Academic Affs)

**Old Business & Welcome**

**Welcome and Minutes**

- Ross welcomed everyone. A sign-in sheet was passed around. Kelley brought in goodies.

- The minutes from the October 10, 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**

none

## New Business

### Increasing Engineering Charge for Technology (CFT)

#### Raising CFT for 2024 school year

- Starting this summer
- Drop in enrollment this year which reduces funding
- Draft budget FY 24
  - Current charge is \$170/student
  - Actual revenue is more like \$152/student
  - We are currently ~\$147,000 in the hole
  - \$50,000 earmarked for networking and taken out
    - Still not enough
  - Increase previously recommended last year by 5%
    - Max increase without involving other parties
    - Intended to be a multi-year implementation to solve budget deficit and provide money for special projects
    - Special projects can be used to increase enrollment
  
- Little feedback from student body opposing raising cost
- CFT currently at \$461,000 which is on par for last year
- Spring runs about 20k less
- Puts CFT at \$906,000 for this year
- Allocations are not being spent by departments
- Unpredictable used gear sales can help department funds
  - \$46,000 in sales this year
- Costs are increasing while student charge has stayed static since 2008
- This increase would cut budget deficit to about \$60,000
- There is a possibility of carryover from last year (in systems engineering especially)
- Account shows \$1,024 in unallocated money
- Compared to other universities, CSU charges a significant amount less
- Mechanical Engineering is forecasted to be in a deficit for department allocation
  - They will need to cut items next year
- Fee structure
  - Differs from course fee
  - Credit hours determine imposed fee
  - Refunds
    - Due to hardship notifications etc.
- Objections
  - Cost might be too high for some students
    - Possibly solved by introducing scholarship fund with newly increased budget

- Possibly look at optimizing cost rather than increasing fees
- Vote to raise fee by 5% next fiscal year results:
  - 16 in favor
  - 1 opposed

### **Software costs**

- Area of increase
- With the number of packages decreasing
- All software is specifically requested
- Hard to cut cost here

### **Student wages**

- Increase due to living wages
- Help desk, I2P, and mechanical
- Straining budget

### **Academic Village Example**

- Immediate back lash from large fee increase at first
- Now current fee is accepted as normal
- Lesson: gradually increase fees

### **Next Meeting**

This concludes our fall meetings unless an emergency arises. The committee will reconvene for FY24 budget construction in early February.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:00pm.

*Respectfully submitted by Fletcher Ouren with modifications and additions from Kelley*