

ESTC Minutes

Engineering Student Technology Committee

October 5, 2023

3-4pm LSC 324

Present:

ATS : Nick Falk, Eric Goldenstern, Prof Steve Miller

CBE : Caroline Loewecke, Ben Sosa, Prof. Chris Snow

CEE : Julie Robinson, Jiate Li, Branch DeMersseman, Prof. Jordan Jarrett

ECE : Luke Shuttleworth, Amin Mahdian, Prof. Mahdi Nikdast

ME : Miguel Valles Castro (Chair), Brandyn Garcia, Prof. Kirk McGilvray

SE : Fletcher Ouren

SBME : Dmitri Svetiov

Ex-Officio : Kelley Branson (ETS)

Guests : Nick Stratton (ETS), Shaila Parashar (ETS), Travis Rogers (ETS)

Absent:

ATS :

CBE :

CEE :

ECE :

ME :

SE :

SBME :

Ex-Officio : Prof. Becki Atadero (had wrong room!)

Old Business & Welcome

Welcome and Minutes

- Miguel welcomed everyone. Kelley brought in grapes and sweets. Miguel will be chairing the committee and running the meetings and is a Mech graduate student. Kelley mentors the Chair as Director of ETS. Other ETS guests were introduced: Nick Stratton (Academic Technology Manager), Shaila Parashar (Systems Group Manager), and Travis Rogers (Financial Manager and account manager for our CFT).

- The minutes from the April 6, 2023 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.

New Business

ESTC Overview & Orientation, Discussion

Kelley presented a slideshow overview of the ESTC and what we do. Please reach out to her if you missed the presentation and would like to see it. Discussion items that came out of the presentation:

- We help govern academic computing policies in the College.
- Represented with undergrads, grad students and faculty from all departments plus SBME, the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and Director of ETS.
- Charge For Technology (CFT) was increased last year from \$170 to \$178.50 (5%) which begun this fall semester. This was necessary to keep up with the increasing costs of computing in the College. We've seen an overall decrease in enrollment since the pandemic years and the Registrar's Office automatically refunds CFT for those who drop credits or drop out. These two things have made it impossible to create a budget the last couple years and still fund our technology.
- If there is money left unencumbered in the CFT account at the end of the year (many reasons this can happen), a call for Strategic Initiatives can happen where College members (usually Lab Managers and ESTC members) can apply for some of that funding but this has not happened in over four years.
- This year's budget is at \$923,798. There was a carry-forward of about \$63K (some of this being saved for future purchases by ETS and the departments. The actual CFT account has more in it due to unspent allocations (ETS and departments) and used Labs equipment sales.

CETC

A call was made for an undergraduate volunteer to serve on the College of Engineering Technology Committee (CETC). Ben Sosa volunteered.

Increasing CFT for AY25

Last year's ESTC recommended increasing CFT by 5% again for this year, hence this item is on the agenda. A 5% increase is the maximum we can raise CFT without it having to be approved by the Board of Governors. Previous to last year, CFT was at \$170 for over 10 years and has not kept up with the cost of computing. 5% would bring it to \$187.50 per semester. Discussion of what CFT is spent on -are these actual or nominal dollars (actual). Kelley showed the budget spreadsheets and how they are real numbers. Some things are shared with the College so CFT is only a percentage of funding support. Assistive Technology takes \$5K out of our budget yearly.

It was decided to have a meeting in November to talk about increasing CFT again.

Next Meeting

Thank you to all who attended. It was almost 100% attendance!

Meeting was adjourned at 3:46pm.

Respectfully submitted by Prof. Steve Miller with modifications and additions from Kelley