

Faculty of Engineering

Executive Committee

Meeting 2019.01

9:00 January 21, 2019, CBY 707

PRESENT

J. Beauvais (Dean),
M. Dubé (Vice-Dean, Research),
L. Peyton (Vice-Dean, Graduate Studies, Interim),
D. Taylor (Vice Dean, Quality Assurance & Teaching Innovation),
T. Lethbridge (Vice-Dean, Governance),
C. Adams (EECS – CSI)
N. Baddour (Chair, MCG),
C. Rennie (Chair, CVG),
B. Kruczek (Chair, CHG),
S. Gandolfini (Chief Administrative Officer),
K. Bournes (Alumni Relations Officer),
V. Samson (Manager of Marketing and Communications),
H. Howes (Manager of Development)

EXCUSED

M. Labrosse (Vice-Dean, Undergraduate Studies),
M. Bouchard (Vice Dean, International, Interim),
C. D'Amours, (Director, EECS)
F. Bouchard (Manager of Outreach),
L. Roy (Assistant to the Dean)

19.01.01 Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved.

Written reports were circulated from the Vice Deans of Research and Graduate Studies, as well as the Manager of Outreach and the Chief Administrative Officer.

19.01.02 Minutes of the last meeting (December 2018)

The minutes of the previous meeting had been approved electronically.

19.01.03 Business arising

We are still waiting to hear suggestions for spending some money that had been contributed in the past by Lockheed Martin.

19.01.04 Update from the Dean

Health and Safety update

There have been two incidents: In CHG, a student was moving a gas chromatograph connected to a cylinder, and the cylinder started falling. In MCG, a student picked up some metal after soldering, resulting in a burn.

There will now be information sheets posted on fume hoods when they are to be shut down, as well as during shutdowns, with protocols in place to ensure appropriate persons are responsible for this. This is a follow-up from an incident last summer when a source of fumes was left in a fume hood when they were shut down.

STEM Update

There is ongoing discussion regarding keeping the blast and shock labs open until accommodations can be made for such facilities in the STEM building.

Netting is going up inside the atrium due to the failure of glass in December. It is expected that the atrium will be re-opened by the end of January.

The large flume kickoff was last week.

We have received support amounting to \$2M for equipment and installation beyond the original budget.

University Strategic Planning

The Dean wants to encourage people to participate in this exercise. The university has 500 people in the session on Jan 22, which is double their goal, and has closed registration. However, there will be other events in which staff and faculty members can participate.

Admission Statistics

The Dean presented data regarding applications province-wide, and the source regions of our students. Most figures for the University of Ottawa are positive. Our undergraduate applications are up 9.7% this year.

Council of Deans of Engineering Meeting

The Dean reported on several items from this meeting.

PEO is concerned about the possibility of fully online degrees. There was discussion of integrated learning and design studios and how these can be counted for academic units in accreditation.

There is concern about the non-mandatory ancillary fees.

There was discussion on gender balance: Several universities skew admissions, particularly in areas such as electrical and mechanical engineering.

There was discussion about outreach at various universities.

There has been an increase in P.Eng. licensing. However, many engineering graduates are employed in industries like FinTech, where students see little benefit in registering for their engineering license.

OSPE have a draft strategic plan.

There was also discussion with the leader of student engineering societies. This included discussion about support for mental wellness. The students want transparency about employment outcomes, but it was pointed out that universities don't have accurate data on this.

Other matters

H. Anis is preparing to apply for the next term of her NSERC Chair position.

There was discussion of having Chantale Rodier, who has a uOttawa degree in Visual Arts, as Artist in Residence.

There was discussion of aspects of online education. Liam Peyton discussed nuances associated with creating online courses. There is an upcoming meeting with Keypath, a for-profit company that can

do much of the work of helping create online courses, in exchange for a 50/50 split of revenues. There was extensive discussion of various aspects of the Keypath proposal and online education in general.

There was a discussion of part time professors at the graduate level, and how we certify that people at the right level are teaching these. We have to be concerned both with IQAP and APTPUO collective agreement rules. A meeting will be arranged to determine how to certify whether a candidate has the expertise to teach a graduate course.

The Dean thanked everybody for their ongoing activities. Key challenges coming up will relate to revenue loss resulting from the 10% reduction in tuition fees imposed by the provincial government.

19.01.05 Adjournment

The meeting ended at 11:05.

Timothy C. Lethbridge, Vice-Dean (Governance)