

**Engineering College Council
Meeting Notes****October 29 – 30, 2002**

The Engineering College Council (ECC) met in Ithaca on October 29 and 30, 2002. The following ECC members were present.

John Anderson
Kenneth Arnold
Richard Aubrecht
Jay Carter
Tim Costello
Robert Cowie
Kent Fuchs
Peter Giles
James Hauslein

David Hodges
William Hudson
Michael Isaacson
James McCormick
Rebecca Robertson
William Shreve
Roger Strauch
Sherri Stuewer
Jan Suwinski

The Council was very positive about the Dean's presentation and commends Kent Fuchs on his work in starting to bring together benchmarking data. It is pleased that there is a resolution of the situation between the College and Computing and Information Science. Furthermore, it is gratified that the relations between the College and Day Hall are improving. The Council thanks President Rawlings and Provost Martin for taking time from their busy schedules to talk to the ECC.

The Council appreciated the introduction of small group breakout sessions with the director and chairs. However, it felt that those sessions could have been more productive had they been more directed at strategy. The Council felt they did not get a plan from the directors and chairs but merely individual wish lists. The issue of space and facilities was a common theme among the directors and chairs. The Council is interested in innovative ideas on increasing space utilization to help address both the quality and quantity of space. The Council believes that the right

approach to hiring is critical to shaping the future of the College and is interested in further discussion on this topic.

The Council was somewhat concerned about the low number of underrepresented minority students at both the graduate and undergraduate levels and urges the College to try to develop a plan to change this. In addition, the discussion by Terry Jordan on the challenges of expanding inquiry-based learning raised questions about the priorities for undergraduate education.

The Council encourages Dean Fuchs to develop the College's strategic plans before the arrival of the new president. It recognizes the need to address in these plans the rising student/faculty ratio and the condition of the engineering facilities. The Council would like to understand the College's long-term goals at the next meeting in the spring. In particular, the Council would like a crisp list of strategic priorities, including what should be enhanced and what should be shed. The Council believes that a strategic plan must be connected to a financial plan that recognizes funding realities and opportunities.

The Council thought that the session on IP issues at Cornell was quite useful. The Council commends the University for moving forward, although continued progress is needed. The Council believes that the focus on IP and technology transfer as a revenue generator, rather than as a means of building corporate relationships, can counter productive. The Council shares the view that IP policy should have as its priority the enhancement and growth of research. Data presented by David Hodges about the revenue generation from IP in the University of California System seems to indicate that except for the biomedical/pharmaceutical area, IP does not generate significant resources to the UC system. In fact, in fast moving areas such as IT, more "income" is generated philanthropically by giving IP away. The Council would like to continue discussion on IP policy.

Dean Fuchs suggested that future ECC meetings be condensed to one full day in order to be able to get more members to attend the full meeting. There was discussion as to whether mid week meetings would work best for most members. Those members with small children noted that mid week meetings would be better for them. The next ECC meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 9th: 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Reception, 7:00 p.m. Dinner and Thursday, April 10th: 8:00 - 3:30 p.m. ECC Meeting.

The Council found that providing handouts on the Internet site before the meeting was quite helpful and encourages the College to continue this pattern.

The Council is willing to help the Dean in any way possible as the College puts together its strategic plan and encourages the Dean to assign the Council significant tasks.