

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

Mission:

NMSU ACAGE serves as a communication liaison promoting support for the Engineering CE department from Industry, Government, and Academia.

DATE: July, 22, 2016

TIME: 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM; Meeting started @ 11:35 am

PLACE: NMSU CE Dept

MEETING: ACAGE Special Annual Meeting

ATTENDANCE: Phone in Meeting

I. Introduction and Roll Call

Board:

- Tim Cynova – President (present)
- Kevin Eades – Past President (present)
- Eddie Martinez – President Elect (present)
- Gabriela C.- Apodaca (Gabby) – Secretary (present)
- Chris Traina – Member (present)
- Adrienne Widmer– Member (present)
- Lisa Varin – (present)
- John Lomler – Member (present)
- Frank Guzman– Member (not present)
- Gus Grace– Member (not present)

Committees:

- Student Affairs – Frank Guzman (not present)
- Faculty Affairs – Gus Grace (not present)
- Financial Affairs – Adrienne Widmer (present)
- Membership – Chris Traina (present)
- Treasurer – Ex. Officio Dr. Jauregui (present)
- Dr. Conrad Keyes – Mem/Nom/All(present)
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II. Approval of Consent Agenda

- Approval of May 2016 Board Meeting Minutes: Dr. Jauregui requested corrections as follows:

-Under “NMSU CE Engineering Homecoming 2016 and ACAGE Banquet activities update”: banquet will be on Thursday (not Friday).

-Under "Other Issues": \$927,000 in cuts is for the College of Engineering, not for the Civil Engineering Department

-Under ABET Process Update page 2: challenging time should be challenging times

- Changes to / Approval of Current Agenda; Chris Traina made motion, Kevin Eades 2nd, All in favor, Eddie Martinez abstained due to not attending the May 20, 2016 meeting.

III. Meeting Agenda

Open Comments from Board Members:

- Dr. David Jauregui - The NMSU ACAGE ABET Meeting will be Thursday, September 29th, from 1- 4pm in Hernandez Hall (this location may change)
- Lisa - she will get the program out. However, Scholarship breakfast will be from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. (by invitation only), 8:45 a.m. will be status of the Department.
- Dr. Jauregui - wants to increase the level of involvement between students, ACAGE, and faculty. He also wants to review course content and make changes if necessary. Also, good discussion topic for this session is budget cut incentive, promoting 3 G's (graduate on time, give back, get job). He asked, "What does the industry feel is lacking in graduating students?"
- Gabby - Life skills need to be addressed in the form of school-to-work transition. Kevin Eades agreed with this comment.
- Dr. Jauregui – it may be possible to address this in the capstone classes since there is no longer a senior seminar class. Capstone classes should be situational and not necessarily teaching anymore.
- Dr. Keyes - suggest letting the students give their feedback at the LC Convention Center from 6-9 pm. And, then the Initiation will be sometime on Friday afternoon whenever the arrangements can be made for Hernandez Hall and in conjunction with the other activities of the College of Engineering that day. NMSU CE Department update and tours will be Friday morning and tbd.
- Dr. Jauregui - new Dean of Engineering will be invited. Results from FE exam still show issues with this test. Will be meeting next week to discuss. Students are struggling with transportation, construction, hydrology and hydraulics. Transportation and Construction alternate semesters in which they are taught – that may be a problem. Students can take the exam within 12 months of graduating. CE Department will reinstate the evening review session with a paid instructor. Still need to figure out the logistics and credit to the student. National pass rate is 70% and NMSU is below that. More to follow next week by email.

IV. Committee Updates

Faculty Affairs – Gus Grace (not present) (The ABET group is part of this ACAGE Faculty Affairs Task Group)

- Adrienne – What is it that you need from me? Same question can be asked of the students it goes both ways. Suggested bringing professionals to talk to the groups.
- Dr. Jauregui – ACAGE needs to interact and discuss with faculty about requiring the FE. Another topic to discuss with faculty is the controversial name change of the department. Right now it is just the Civil Engineering Department. Consider changing to Civil Engineering and Environmental Engineering. Two faculty members are Environmental Engineers.
- Chris Traina – Industry expects grads to know Environmental and Civil Engineering in California. Grads need to know both disciplines. A broader knowledge is better for the engineer to have.
- Dr. Jauregui – Both options still exist at NMSU. The problem that Environmental faculty is focused on research and they do not feel like they fit under Civil Engineering.

Student Affairs – Frank Guzman (not present)

- Kevin - On the school-to-work concept, the students need to be taught (mentored) by a seasoned engineer on how to work with experienced and older folks. On the average, the working industry is not the same age as the graduating students.
- Dr. Jauregui - students are too focused on electronics, and their face to face communication skills are suffering for this.

Financial Affairs - Adrienne Widmer (present) Dues and Donations review. Need an amendment to the By-Laws wording?

- Adrienne – Pass
- Dr. Keyes – Question is addressed under associate member in the by-laws. Dues are not tax deductible but donations are tax deductible. A good time to vote on changing this is at the annual meeting. Suggest changing to dues to “donations”.

Membership - Chris Traina (present) Do we need clarification on what an active member is?

- Chris – Answer to question above: It is good for 2016 initiates. Lisa and Dr. Keyes have been tracking the voting. Ross Lujan has not been able to attend. The Membership committee has agreed to go ahead and transfer him from associate to full member in 2016. He is planning to come this year. Chris made motion to accept this proposal, Kevin 2nd, all in favor.

V. Potential Initiates update 2016 & 2017

- Conrad - We have enough votes for 2016 and 2017. Updates to 2016 will affect 2017. Wendy Winn cannot make it in 2016 so move her to 2017. Jared Brown is changing jobs so he may not be able to attend till 2017. They have 8/29/16 deadline for bios and photos or they move to 2017.

VI. Honorary Member / ByLaws Change (Dr. Keyes)

- Needs to happen at the actual meeting
- Report on vote for Honorary Member - Lisa: 44 active members have paid
- Report on vote for ByLaws Change – we need to change what/who is considered for quorum. Need to provide changes to the bylaws.
- Let Adrienne give suggestions to Tim so he can send to the membership by the August 2th.

VII. Scholarship Updates - (Dr. Jauregui)

- Scholarships have been awarded - Thanks to Ed & Chub for the additional scholarships! Other valued contributors: Kaiser, JB Waters, Kenneth White, and Traina Family
- Students - 2 per year for the ACAGE banquet \$500 each

VIII. Other Issues

- Dr. Jauregui - Due to budget cuts Lisa will be reassigned from the department. This position needs 25% funding approval from ACAGE. Remainder of funding will come from other areas. Lisa is willing to provide banquet activities coordination for the remainder of this term. Then we will have to figure out what to do after this term. Student enrollment needs to increase to alleviate this shortfall.
- Eddie: Is there overlap between civil and survey?
- DRJ in some electives only. He also explained the dynamics of enrollment, faculty, funding, and the number of majors. It all comes back to enrollment and money. Regardless of the success of graduates, industry need, or research brought in by the colleges. All colleges had to prioritize and survey may be cut.
- Dr. Keyes – The Osteopathic College will employ 30% of faculty are from NMSU. Their building cost \$24,000,000.00

ADJOURNMENT

- Adrienne made motion, Gabby 2nd all in favor, meeting ended @ 1:43 p.m. Next meeting will be in September 2016.