

# ACAGE Board Meeting – CONFERENCE CALL

Meeting Minutes – May 20, 2016

## *Mission:*

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

**Present:** Kevin Eades, Tim Cynova, Eddie Martinez, Chris Traina, Gabriela Apodaca, Dr. David Jauregui, Dr. Conrad Keyes, Lisa Varin

**Absentees:** Frank Guzman, Gus Grace, Adrienne Widmer

**Meeting Called to Order:** 1:38 PM

---

## I. Roll Call

## II. Introduction and Comments

### Board:

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

### Committees:

- Student Affairs – Frank Guzman (not present)
- Faculty Affairs – Gus Grace (not present)
- Financial Affairs – Adrienne Widmer (not present), David Jauregui
- Membership – Chris Traina, Conrad Keyes, Jr.
- ABET Committee is a the ACAGE Board with the other ABET interest individuals.

## III. Approval of Consent Agenda

- Approval of April 1, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes – Chris made motion; Dr. Jauregui 2<sup>nd</sup>; all in in favor with correction misspelling in Section C – Financial Affairs
- Changes to/Approval of Current Agenda: none noted

## IV. Meeting Agenda

### Open Comments from Board Members:

- Tim - On the bylaws we should review all areas in particular on the honorary member. Item 1 may not meet. Need 100% board members and 75% of all active members to approve but that has not been done in the past.
- Conrad - We have a hard time getting the lifetime members to vote on anything. So we may need to change that at a special annual meeting.
- Tim – will ask for the recommended changes by July 22<sup>nd</sup>.

## **ACAGE Board Meeting – CONFERENCE CALL**

Meeting Minutes – May 20, 2016

### *Mission:*

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

- Kevin – consider change to 100% by the board and none from the membership.
- Conrad – consider 50% by the membership committee.

### **ABET Process Update:**

- Dr. Jauregui - there are 2 meetings with ABET this summer and also during homecoming week. He needs assistance from this group to identify and survey past students (time period 2012-2014) that are now working in our companies/organizations. This will close a loop for ABET criteria. The EE Dept. had meeting with advisory groups in identifying skills that are needed in the work place.

These are challenging time due to budget cuts and reduction in credit hours for the CE major. Need to be careful that there is no duplication of material from one class to another. The program needs to avoid duplication across the college and not just in CE. We may need to formulate a survey to identify skills needed in the work place from graduating students.

How do we engage these 2012-2014 students?

- 1.) Identify students and employers
- 2.) Ask Dean's advisory council for information

What type of questions to ask? (Questions need to be measureable)

- 1.) What skills have been beneficial for the student and useful to the employer?
- 2.) What has not been beneficial?
- 3.) Effectiveness of our program?

Questions do not have to be technical – for example, they could be about computer/presenting skills. Dr. Jauregui will initiate some of the questions and we can add to that.

ABET committee needs to be identified. Need folks that can commit to actual participation. There is a need for three meetings: 1. Summer, 2. Homecoming, 3. Other time frame to be determined. Committee members: Eddie Martinez (confirmed), Kevin Eades (confirmed), Gabby C.-Apodaca (confirmed), Tim Hightower (not confirmed yet). We can fit this sub-committee in Student Affairs with tentative first meeting in July or August.

## **ACAGE Board Meeting – CONFERENCE CALL**

Meeting Minutes – May 20, 2016

### *Mission:*

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

### **FE:**

- Dr. Jauregui – Students are not preparing, but it would be beneficial to their career if they took this test. Unfortunately, performance on this test has weakened in the last few years. Dr. Jauregui will continue to require students to take the exam. Unfortunately, international students are not taking the test as there is not a benefit to them when they return to their country. And, those that do take it may do poorly for the reason mentioned above. Domestic students do not see a P.E. in their future. Some environmental engineering faculty does not have P.E. so they are not providing an example to the students.
- Kevin – what happens if we remove the requirement to pass the test?
- Dr. Jauregui – our numbers will drop.
- Gabby – at NMDOT students are not interviewed for engineering positions if they have not passed the FE. However, they can be considered for tech positions that do not require an engineering degree.
- Kevin – his employer pay more to those that have passed; those that pass during school are more successful after hiring.
- Dr. Jauregui – has tried to initiate incentives for those students that pass the FE. Students will get a monetary award by the school. CE Dept. will pay for half the fee to take the test.

## **IV. Committee Updates**

### **Faculty Affairs:**

- Gus Grace (not present)
- Dr. Keyes - how far along are we on the junior faculty award? We may need to reassign someone else to this committee. Tim will get update from Gus.

### **Student Affairs:**

- Frank Guzman (not present) – but see ABET information above.
- Dr. Keyes - how are we doing with 2016 scholarships?

### **Financial Affairs:**

- Adrienne Widmer (not present)
- Lisa – concerning voting, as long as everyone is up to date you are eligible to vote. ((Lisa will send Dues Payment Report (May deadline) to Gabby)).

## **ACAGE Board Meeting – CONFERENCE CALL**

Meeting Minutes – May 20, 2016

### *Mission:*

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

### **Membership:**

- Chris Traina – waiting to collect votes from the membership. Chris will collect this information and we need to have this done by 5/31/16. We need to get this information out.
- Conrad – how are we going to get more candidates for 2017?
- Chris – He's working on it. We need to vote in February for 2017 candidates. Secretary must receive the form by Feb 15.
- Dr. Keyes - Gabby should have received 3 for 2017.

## **V. NMSU CE Engineering Homecoming 2016 and ACAGE Banquet activities update**

- Lisa – does not have more information than what was already presented last month.
- Dr. Jauregui - Thursday will host ABET, the banquet will be on Friday and do more celebration at the banquet. State of the Department update will be earlier in the meeting on Friday. On Friday members can integrate with the college and students.

## **VI. Potential Initiates update 2016**

- Dr. Keyes - Lisa has 14 votes. We have lost 10 members due to loss of email addresses.
- Tim – concerning Fred Small – who wants to pay his fee? Eddie Martinez will pay his fee. Eddie will follow up. This needs to be done at the special annual meeting (July 22) so the membership can vote on it.

## **VII. Honorary Member / Members**

- Kevin Eades - all is good nothing to do here. Do we need 75% vote from membership?
- Dr. Keyes – yes, but we need to vote on changing the by-laws to do this. We can deal with it at the July 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting. We need a 30 day notice to the membership for a special meeting.
- Tim – we need a motion. Eddie made a motion, Chris 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor to vote ahead of time (June 22 to July 22). Will be taking votes on honorary members by July 22<sup>nd</sup>. (Lisa will send out the email requesting a vote). Report on vote for Honorary Member - we did get 100% of the Board to vote, vote was unanimous

## **ACAGE Board Meeting – CONFERENCE CALL**

Meeting Minutes – May 20, 2016

### *Mission:*

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

### **VIII. Scholarship Updates**

- Dr. Jauregui:
  - Silver anniversary scholarship \$17,750 leaves \$7,750 to create endowment.
  - Keith Kaiser donated over \$45,000 for endowment.
  - Will provide \$2,000 for scholarships.
  - \$100 stipend for students that take and pass the FE.
- Dr. Keyes – is it possible to get a loan to start the endowment?

#### **Endowed scholarship:**

Two students per year (\$500) for homecoming

### **IX. Other Issues**

- David – concerning committees, we need something in the bylaws to address participation such as replacing those that are not participating.
- Conrad – asked Tim to look at the bylaws and use stronger language to replace non-participation.
- Facing \$927,000 in cuts for the CE Department. ACAGE is a voice – please consider this information for the July meeting.
- CE has been select to be the focus of Salon Discoveries (Dr. Bandini, Bridge program, Dr. Khandan, and Water Resources) would like support from this group to display to the University.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Kevin made motion, Dr. Jauregui 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor @ 12:50 pm