Summaries of progress on the key recommendations of the CU-Engineering Advisory Council (EAC) at its 4/26/2013 meeting are provided below. This summary report, prior reports, and other EAC information are posted at [http://www.colorado.edu/engineering/about/engineering-advisory-council](http://www.colorado.edu/engineering/about/engineering-advisory-council).

**Strategic Planning**
The EAC recommended that the College refresh its strategic plan, *Engineering 2020: Vision for Excellence*, which was published five years ago. In response, Dean Davis drafted a refreshed plan that reviews progress against the prior plan, describes internal and external changes over the past five years, and lays out new goals and strategies to meet these goals. An EAC task force has reviewed the draft and provided input, as has the Administrative Council of the College. It has also been provided to the branding task force (see below) and will be the subject of a college-wide mini-retreat on 9/18/2013. A revised draft is being provided to all EAC members and will be discussed at the 9/27/2013 EAC meeting and finalized soon afterwards.

**Differentiators and Branding**
The EAC recommended that an aligned view of the college differentiators be developed and used to implement a branding strategy to improve reputation and recruiting. In response, a branding task force was formed this past summer with both university and EAC members. It is led by Carol Rowe and Courtney Staufer of our communications team. The CU-Boulder communications and marketing team is helping to guide the effort, and a professional consultant has been engaged to interview focus groups of college constituents. The effort is nearing completion, and a report and discussion will be included in the 9/27/2013 EAC meeting.

**Fleming Design Center**
The EAC recommended that the College gain approval and funding for the development of a design center in the old Fleming Law Building, and include a “wow” factor. The campus has now granted our proposal for this space, and an architectural firm has been contracted and is working with a college team to design the center. It is now called “The Idea Forge”, and the wow factor is an open, flexible design to accommodate a vast array of student projects to promote active learning. Naming opportunities have been identified, and a fundraising effort has been launched with a $2 million goal. Our college is also prepared to provide up to $2 million for the project, if needed. The design is expected to be completed by the end of this fall semester, and the facility is expected to open in fall 2014.

**New Programs**
The EAC agreed to provide Dean Davis an industry perspective on new degrees and programs. Several EAC members volunteered for this task, and Dean Davis engaged them for advice on restructuring the Environmental Engineering Program and adding graduate degrees to complement the existing undergraduate degree. The restructuring was implemented in summer 2013, and a draft plan for graduate degrees was also developed during this time. Advice on other new degrees and programs will be sought in the future, as the College continues to grow.
Other Updates

Updates on additional subjects discussed at the 4/26/2013 EAC meeting include:

- A record number (5249) of prospective undergraduates applied for Fall 2013 admission to our college. The entering class of about 840 new freshmen is our largest and most diverse, and with the highest quality measures.
- The Fall 2013 new freshmen include 67 international students, our largest number and percentage (8%) to-date. A new Director of International Programs has been hired by our college, to start in October 2013.
- The Leeds School of Business has developed a 12-credit, undergraduate business minor that is starting in Fall 2013. This minor includes 20 engineering students in its first class and will serve as one of the approved “concentrations” in the new General Engineering Plus degree. We are still seeking to collaborate on a “business plus” minor, which would add a course in engineering project management or engineering economics to the business minor, but there are cultural and perception barriers to overcome.
- Our college is offering its first two MOOCs (Massive Open On-line Courses) through Coursera this semester. We are also expanding the use of on-line courses and materials to improve the education of our own students and have hired half-time an expert in educational technology to assist the faculty. The Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering has developed 900 screencasts (short, instructor-narrated videos on key course concepts) that have been viewed on YouTube and iTunesU by students around the world over 2 million times (see http://www.learncheme.com).