SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS
CU Engineering Advisory Council Meeting on 9/24/10

The 9/24/10 meeting of the CU-Boulder Engineering Advisory Council (EAC), as well as the meeting of its Resource Development Committee the prior afternoon, had lively discussion on the very substantial progress made by the College of Engineering and Applied Science and on moving the College from good to great in the area of sustainability. Brief summaries of recommendations from the general discussion are provided below. This summary report and notes from the Dean’s update (he did not use PowerPoint this time) are archived at http://engineering.colorado.edu/overview/advisory_boards.htm. The next meeting of the EAC is 4/22/11, and the Engineering Awards Banquet is scheduled for that evening.

**Sustainability Discussions:** Recommendations from the discussions on sustainability, in both the general meeting and committee breakouts, are

1) **Faculty buy-in needed** – ask what they are doing in sustainability, guide them to resource opportunities, and provide incentives and resource allocations in sustainability.

2) **Brand sustainability for CU-Boulder,** with a focused message to external audiences and prospective students (who want to do something noble for society).

3) **Integrate sustainability into curricula,** such as life-cycle analysis and certificates in engineering for developing communities and leadership.

4) **Develop strategic partnerships with companies,** with effort led by the Associate Dean for Research.

5) **Continue research on renewable energy technologies,** with focus on improving their economics, while also increasing efforts in natural gas and perhaps nuclear energy.

**Education Committee:** Recommendations from the education committee meeting are

1) **Introduce the new Introduction to Engineering course** in Fall 2011 and use Center for Engineering Education Research and Assessment (CEERA) Teaching Fellows for this and other interdisciplinary courses.

2) **Establish an Advisory Board** for the Engineering Honors Program along with a development effort, and form CEERA to help support the Honors curriculum.

3) **Continue and grow the E-ship Program** along with a priority for fundraising.

4) **Include leadership expectations** in the Honors and E-ship programs.

**Inclusive Excellence Committee:** The Inclusive Excellence Committee partnered with the BOLD Advisory Committee on two retreats between the Spring and Fall 2010 EAC meetings. Key recommendations from these retreats and the breakout session at the 9/24/2010 EAC meeting include

1) **Set access goals** of 17% underrepresented minorities and 33% women by the Fall 2013 entering class, on the way to a longer-term goal of parity with state demographics.

2) **Set performance and retention goals** for underrepresented students of at least 90% of those of the majority population by 2013, on the way to a longer-term goal of parity with majority students.

3) **Develop a BOLD fundraising campaign,** with an initial goal of raising at least $100,000 in new scholarship funds during this fiscal year, above and beyond current scholarship support. BOLD Advisory Committee members committed to “give or get” an average of $10,000 each this year.

4) **Implement retention initiatives** based on research-informed, mentoring initiatives with industry. Initial events have included round-table discussions with Joanne Maguire and other Lockheed-
Martin executives on 9/21/2010 in the Integrated Teaching and Learning Laboratory and an Industry Night in the BOLD Center on 10/6/2010.

**Operations Committee:** The operations committee noted very positive progress on campus decisions to complete the Biotechnology Building and provide the College of Engineering and Applied Science with some space in the old Fleming Law Building. Other discussion items and recommendations include

1) Monitor use of Fleming library space, and write letter requesting it for engineering design projects if it appears underutilized.
2) Visitors have observed that some research labs are messy – clean up is needed to project a safe and professional environment.
3) Sustainability initiative should be led by research, perhaps with an addition to the Office of the Associate Dean for Research.
4) Nuclear energy has more economic viability than other alternative energy sources, and CU should consider its role.
5) Clarity should be provided on EAC member expectations, and an expected annual contribution of $2,500 per member, including $1000 for the Dean’s Club, is recommended.

**Partnership Committee:** The Recommendations from the partnership committee are

1) **CU Venture Fund**
   - Encourage David Allen to get this fund launched as soon as possible
   - Peter Mannetti will talk to Wayne Hutchens and provide a strong endorsement
   - The CU Foundation should itself invest in this fund
2) **Leadership Certificate**
   - Very strong endorsement of the proposed certificate
   - A rich list of topics to be covered in seminars was developed
   - Strong recommendation that graduate students should also be able to obtain a leadership certificate
   - Did not see a need or driver to develop an umbrella for certificates offered through the College
3) **Potential Next Focus Area**
   - The group believes the College should be doing more to develop deep relationships with targeted corporations, and that these relationships should drive significant financial support to the College, with corresponding value to the corporations through access to our students and faculty

**Research Committee:** The following recommendations were made by the research committee

1) Provide research metrics in comparison to peer/aspirant group.
2) Continue research programs in renewable and sustainable energy, and add natural gas to the research portfolio due to its relative abundance and low cost.
3) Describe how STEM education research fits into the college portfolio.
4) Provide support for proposal preparation – literature review, editing, “red teams” to critically review proposals before submission, etc. – as well as post-mortems on failed proposals to improve for subsequent submissions.
5) Continue communication strategy of research highlights.
6) To sustain recent growth in research funding, there should be targeted growth in the College’s portfolio in DoD and DOE.
**Resource Development Committee:** Recommendations from the RDC include

1) The RDC discussed and endorsed the recommendation to change the bylaws to state that the EAC members are expected to provide annual financial support of at least $2,500, including $1,000 annually to the Dean’s Fund for Excellence and $1,500 to any other program of CEAS. The proposed bylaw change will be communicated to EAC members at least 30 days before their next meeting.

2) The RDC recommends that a reminder be sent to all EAC members who have not yet joined the Dean’s Club, asking them to join and providing a convenient online option and hardcopy giving form. Follow-up reminders will be sent to those who do not respond.

3) Planned giving was enthusiastically embraced as a long-term strategy for securing more resources for the College. The recommendation is to keep this giving option at the front of the minds of alumni and EAC members.

4) Several members of the ChBE/Biotech fundraising subcommittee volunteered to help CU/CUF make connections with prospective donors, most of whom are affiliated with corporations.

5) The RDC members made a short site visit to the Biotech Building and were excited to see the progress. The committee recommends incorporating a tour of the building during the next EAC meeting and a discussion of giving/fundraising strategies for the Biotech Building with the EAC.

6) Next fall, the Dean’s Club event is recommended to be on a home football weekend. Doug is willing to host a brunch on the morning of the game, either at his house or on campus.

**Other items:** Scott Donnelly led a discussion of giving expectations by EAC members. It was recommended that members be expected to give at least $2,500 per year to the College, or $10,000 over a 4-year term, including $1,000 per year to the Dean’s Club. This recommendation received support, and an entry for the bylaws will be distributed for adoption at the next meeting. It was recommended that some flexibility be provided for individuals who already have multi-year pledges in place. Senior Vice Chancellor Ric Porreca gave an update on state funding and recent building purchases and construction on CU’s East Campus – he did a great job.