SUMMARY OF THE 10/14/2013 CU ENGINEERING ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING

Brief Items
1. Welcome of Bev Louie as interim leader of the BOLD Center
2. Welcome of Doug Smith as Assistant Dean for Programs and Engagement
3. Congratulations to Diane Sieber for the CU Excellence in Leadership Award

US News Rankings – The college-wide graduate ranking is based 40% on reputation and 60% on quantitative metrics, while departmental rankings and the college-wide undergraduate ranking are based 100% on reputation. Part of our messaging efforts in the future will be targeted at deans, chairs, and others who contribute to the reputational judgment. We need to better understand who receives requests to evaluate programs. Quantitative metrics include size of the graduate program, research funding (both total and per faculty member), fraction of applicants offered admission, and fraction of faculty members who are members of the National Academy of Engineering.

EAC Debrief – The Engineering Advisory Council (EAC) endorsed the refreshed strategic plan but asked that we consider an even more aggressive growth scenario and place emphasis on attracting and retaining top students. If there is more aggressive growth, a concern was expressed about the most popular programs becoming too large. Dan Schwartz noted that our ChBE enrollments will likely be among the top 5 in the country by next year. The EAC also endorsed the campus branding platform, and recommended that college messaging be integrated into this platform and have a strong emotional appeal backed by facts. The next EAC meeting (4/26/2014) will include a presentation by the ECEE department, a focus on graduate programs, and discussion of departmental advisory boards, as well as updates on the strategic plan and branding effort.

Renovation Proposals – Rob summarized data prepared by JoAnn for the past three years of funding for renovation projects. Typically, about 25 – 30 proposals are received each year, with a 60% success rate and $800K total annual funding between the campus ($370K), college ($310K), and departments/programs ($120K). It was recommended that beautification proposals be due earlier than renovation proposals, and that departments make strategic plans for renovation proposals. A tutorial on preparing renovation proposals will be presented at a later meeting.

Plans for Shared User Facility Support – A request for proposals will be issued in 2-3 weeks. The plan is to provide a 30% cost share of annual operating expenses, with the remaining 70% from the users. The college will provide 3/4 of the cost share, and the departments will provide ¼. The cost share will be general funds to pay staff salaries. The RFP is not for equipment or space. The proposals will be competitively reviewed by the faculty research council. Chairs recommended that the accounting be handled on a distributed basis (i.e., by each facility or its host department or program), but with college oversight/review. Up to $500K per year may be provided for these facilities, though not all in the first round.

Interdisciplinary Teaching – Rob noted that our college has been and will be the recipient of faculty lines that come from a variety of campus interdisciplinary initiatives, including aerospace, biotechnology, energy, and materials science and engineering. The current trend is for these lines to be rostered (both budget and tenure) in home departments, but with some teaching expectations of the individuals (or collectively from their departments) for the interdisciplinary initiatives. In some cases, these expectations have been formalized via an MOU, but not in others. Similarly, we have several institute faculty members with tenure homes in our college but with their lines rostered in the graduated school. They usually but
not always teach for their tenure home. Further discussion of teaching expectations for these faculty members will take place in the future.

**Energy Minor** – Strong interest was expressed in forming a college-wide energy minor, which might have 2-3 core or foundational courses that all students in the minor take and 2-3 elective courses that the students choose from a variety of tracks (e.g., conventional fuels, renewable energy, electrical energy, etc.). A task force will be formed to explore and develop this minor. It was noted that RASEI already offers an energy certificate, though more focused on policy than technology.

**Attendees:** Rob Davis, JoAnn Zelasko, Doug Smith, Diane Sieber, Kurt Maute, Mary Steiner, Bev Louie, Penny Axelrad, Dan Schwartz, Keith Molenaar, Jim Martin, Peter Mathys, Jana Milford