SUMMARY OF THE 11/11/2013 MEETING OF THE CU ENGINEERING ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

Brief Items

- Search updates (finalists for Asst Dean for Inclusive Excellence being interviewed Nov 11-12; new Manager of Large Proposals, Molly Riddell, hired to start Dec 2)
- Alcohol policy update (new policy allows for alcohol purchase for conferences from the conference auxiliary revenue, but alcohol purchase for official functions such as meals with visitors is still restricted to designated gift funds – campus leadership agreed to collect data and review in six months)
- Dec 5 holiday party (will be held at 4:30 pm in the Abrams room of C4C; families invited)
- Concern was expressed over working with the Graduate School on research personnel matters: slow, mistakes, increased procedural requirements

Engineering Excellence Fund

There is about $500K available for mini and major awards this year, including some unused carryover from last year. The success rate is high, and good proposals are needed. Rob recommends each department or program have a multi-year strategy for EEF proposals, to improve its educational offerings and infrastructure. The $27 per course program fee is charged for both undergraduate and graduate courses, and so both graduate and undergraduate proposals should be considered. Most successful proposals impact many students instead of just a few. Most successful proposals also have a cost share on the order of ¼ - ½, though a cost share is not a formal requirement.

Energy and Bioengineering Minors

A taskforce to outline a college-wide energy minor will be launched this week. Funding to support the minor for its first five years has been committed by ConocoPhillips. The minor will have foundational core courses, followed by elective courses chosen from a specialty such as fossil fuels, renewable energy, electrical energy, etc. Rob also proposed a college-wide bioengineering minor. It also would have foundational core courses and then elective courses chosen from a specialty such as biomechanics, medical devices, and pharmaceutical biotechnology. A biodesign project could be part of the minor, perhaps with students taking their departmental capstone-design course but then working on projects in interdisciplinary teams. Further discussions and possibly a sponsor of the bioengineering minor are needed before a taskforce is launched.

Discussion of College Growth

Further discussion of college growth was undertaken, including the possibility of doubling from 4000 students in the baseline year (2007) of our strategic plan to 8000 by 2020 or 2022. Concerns expressed include how to manage enrollment growth, especially for very popular majors, the importance of keeping diversity a priority with growth, and the need to chart what growth to 8000 students might look like department by department. It was recommended that transfer requirements be revisited, that we consider engaging a consultant with growth-management experience in industry or academia, that more standardized administrative structures be developed for the departments (including functions of CEO, COO, CFO, VP of HR), that a BOLD liaison be identified for each department, and that scenario planning be undertaken.

Remaining Meeting(s) this Semester

The only remaining meeting scheduled for this semester is on 12/9/2013. It will be an expanded meeting, with directors invited to attend.

In Attendance: Rob Davis, Kurt Maute, Diane Sieber, Jeff Sczechowski, Doug Smith, Mary Steiner, JoAnn Zelasko, Penny Axelrad, Dan Schwartz, Jim Martin, Keith Molenaar, Jill Dupre, Bev Louie, Peter Mathys, Jana Milford