

Engineering Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

October 28, 2022, 8:00-3:30 PM

EAC Members: Paul Brinkman (Chair), Bhavna Chhabra (Vice Chair), Jon Mollenkopf (Past Chair), Dana Andersen, John Donatelli, Steve Dunn, Mike Gazarik, Jon Goldsmith, Dale Hatfield, Dan Ivanoff, Nan Joesten, Amy Kramer, Mark Matossian, Cliff Pearson, Susie See, Ann Smead, Kathrine Tobey, Herb Vogel, Ed Ward

Student Participants: Ariana Carmody, Sudarshan Damodharan; Mia Fox, Gabrielle Dunn, Elizabeth Eyeson, Dana Stamo, Alexander Cheng, Cole Kenny, Hannah Sanders, Emma Stokes, Natalia Storz, Pranav Subramanian, Cody Wheeler, Rachel Xie

Engineering Staff Participants: Keith Molenaar, Erin Gage, Matthew Young, Kevin Lobdell, Amy Hill, Terri Wright, Fernando Rosario-Ortiz, Medford Moorer, Mary Steiner, Rhonda Hoenigman, Charles Musgrave, Ben Weihrauch, Chris Senseney, Lindsey Pratte

Meeting began at 9:45 after breakfast with the Leeds Advisory Board and a tour of the Student Success Hub.

Agenda

- Dean's welcome
- College updates
- Approach to debt-free education
- Lunch with student leaders
- Strategic visioning process/work session
- EAC governance and bylaws
- Closed executive session

Dean's Welcome

Dean Keith Molenaar welcomed all Engineering Advisory Council (EAC) members and thanked them for their continuing support of the College of Engineering and Applied Science (CEAS) and CU Boulder. Keith introduced the new EAC Char, Paul Brinkmann, and EAC Vice Chair, Bhavna Chhabra and thanked them for their willingness to serve. He welcomed two new members, Susie See and Ed Ward, and thanked them for their willingness to contribute.

College updates

Keith provided an update on the college that included the topics of short-term task group outcomes, college rankings, research awards, facility updates, Engineering Residential Community, new campus budget model, enrollment updates, student retention and industry partnerships. Student retention and industry partnerships were emphasized throughout the college update. Please see attached presentation for more detail.

Approach to debt-free education

Keith began by sharing information about retention. He explained that over his first 100 days, his focus has really sharpened on the data around retention for first gen, pell eligible students from the state of Colorado. There is a significant gap in 2nd fall retention with these students, compared with the general CEAS average, and we have identified that finances are a key driver in their ability to stay. EAC members

responded strongly to this problem statement, expressing support for this focus. Multiple EAC members who are first gen themselves identified and shared personal stories. Keith shared that both he and the chancellor are also first gen students. Keith then walked through a proposal to cover the cost of attendance for this student group, sharing specific finances necessary to roll out a program. There was discussion of different support models, including developing corporate partners in a sustainable model as well as securing individual philanthropy to allow a pilot to launch. The EAC asked to continue the conversation later in the day, to continue thinking through their possible roles in partnering with Keith to move the initiative forward.

Lunch with student leaders

The EAC met with leaders from various CEAS student organizations over lunch. EAC members were tasked with capturing the conversations for input in the CEAS strategic planning process. Prompts for the discussion included the following questions.

- What state, national and world events are shaping your passion to be an engineer (e.g., climate crisis, commercialization of space, need for clean water, etc.)?
- What activities, outside the classroom, give you a sense of belonging as an engineering student? What distracts from your sense of belonging?
- As an engineering student, what access do you have to professional mentoring or other career-building opportunities? What might be missing?

The EAC members captured notes and provided them to Medford Moorer for inclusion in the strategic planning process.

Strategic visioning process/work session

Keith provided an overview of the CEAS strategic planning process, which kicked off in October and will be completed in April. EAC members met with CEAS Sr. Staff to provide input into the visioning portion of the strategic plan. Prompts for the discussion included the following questions.

- What state, national and global events that are shaping your work and your strategy for the future?
- As we build cohorts of students who are interested in your industries, as we develop meaningful experiences, mentoring, & soft skills development:
 - What would be valuable to you in that process?
 - How should we be positioning students for the future?

The CEAS Sr. Staff members captured notes and provided them to Medford Moorer for inclusion in the strategic planning process.

Governance and Bylaws

Paul Brinkman led a working session to review areas of the governance and bylaws with the purpose of making an update. Areas of discussion composition of the Executive Committee, effectiveness of the Resource Development Committee, changes to the Distinguished Alumni Awards Committee given that CEAS has more support from the alumni staff, and a review of the Expectations for Members Appendix. The discussion resulted in changes that Keith will reflect in redlines to the Bylaws for review by the EAC. Keith will send the redlines to the EAC for comment. After receiving comments, the EAC will be asked to vote on the changes electronically.

Keith closed the meeting with a note of gratitude to the EAC members, CEAS staff and CEAS students who participated in the meeting. The next EAC meeting will be held on April 14, 2023, with the Distinguished Engineering Alumni Awards.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00.