Administrative Council Meeting Minutes
January 27, 2025 | 4:00-5:00 PM

Agenda
- Federal Transition Discussion
- CE Major Change
- IBE Degree Progress
- ITLP Governance Committee
- I&E Fellowships
- CEAS Media Survey

Dean Keith Molenaar began the meeting at 4:00 p.m.

Federal Transition Discussion
Heather Bené, Associate Vice President of Research and Federal Policy with the Office of Government Relations at University of Colorado System, gave a presentation on "Government Operations 101" (see attached). Discussion followed on current changes and impacts to campus. Council members were encouraged to rely on communications from the Chancellor's office and the Federal transition: Updates, campus resources, insights, and more webpage for updates and current information.

To stay up to date as the transition continues, the council agreed to have weekly touchpoints on Tuesdays at 5:00 PM (online) through spring break; calendar invitations to follow.

Computer Engineering Major Change
Marco Nicotra, Associate Professor in Electrical, Computer and Energy Engineering, presented the proposed major change for Computer Engineering (CE). He explained the reasons behind the proposal (see attached), and stated the next steps are to have a formal vote in the department prior to submitting the change in curriculum management system (CIM) system. Any questions about the change can be sent to Marco directly.

Quick Announcements:
Due to time restrictions, Kurt Maute, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education, will follow up at a later time with updates on the **IBE Degree Progress** and **ITLP Governance Committee.**

Scott Anderson, Senior Director for Marketing and Communications, announced that the **CEAS Media Survey** will be sent out via email and asked the council to encourage their faculty to fill it out.

Communications regarding **Operational Planning** will be coming out this week, including the launch of the website.

Updates on the **Innovation & Entrepreneurship fellowships** will be shared in the All-College Meeting on Wednesday, January 29.

Meeting adjourned at 5:05 PM

Executive Orders: What They <u>Can</u> Do

- Signed, written directive from the President
- Force of law
- Direct government operations and administrative matters
- Kick start policy making (task forces, reports, rulemaking)
- Establish presidential priorities, create messaging
- Legal effect contingent on appropriate use of presidential authority
  - **Article II of the Constitution** (executive powers)
  - **Congressional delegation** ("agency authorities")

- Every President since George Washington has used this power: George W. Bush (291) Obama (277), Trump (220), Biden (160)

Executive Orders: What They **Cannot** Do

- Cannot create *new* agency authority

- Cannot change funding dictated by Congress

- Often take months or years to implement

- Subject to judicial review and challenge
- May be rescinded by the President at any time
- Other notable executive actions:
  - **Proclamation** (ceremonial or symbolic)
  - **Memorandum** (policy guidance or instructions, less formal)

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Legislative Branch

119th Congress

- House: 220 (R) – 215 (D)
- Senate: 53 (R) – 47 (D)

- Small majorities
- Fractious majority conference

Regular Order

- House: Simple majority (218 out of 435) to pass legislation
- Senate: Simple majority (51 out of 100) to pass legislation

                  Super majority (60 out of 100) to cut off debate, bring a bill to a vote

- **Compromise and bipartisanship remain necessary**

Budget Reconciliation
How to pass a budget bill with a simple majority in the Senate

- Procedural tool to fast-track consideration of budget legislation
- Reconciliation instructions included in annual budget resolution

Limitations (Byrd rule)

‣ Must change revenue or spending

‣ Budgetary effect cannot be incidental

‣ Cannot increase the deficit

‣ Cannot increase deficits beyond the reconciliation window

‣ Cannot change Social Security

‣ 23 reconciliation bills enacted since 1980, including the *Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017* and the *Inflation Reduction Act of 2022*

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How We Think a Bill Becomes a Law

House
- Bill Introduced
- Committee Consideration
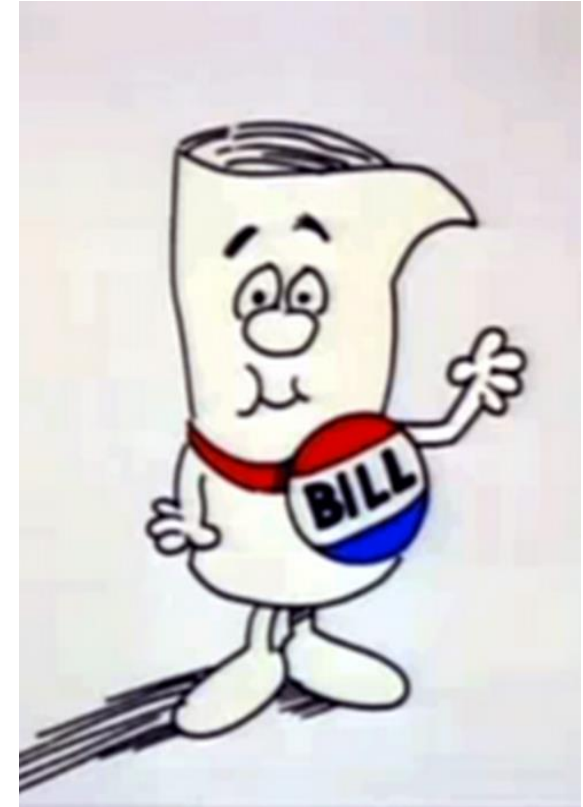- House Vote

Senate
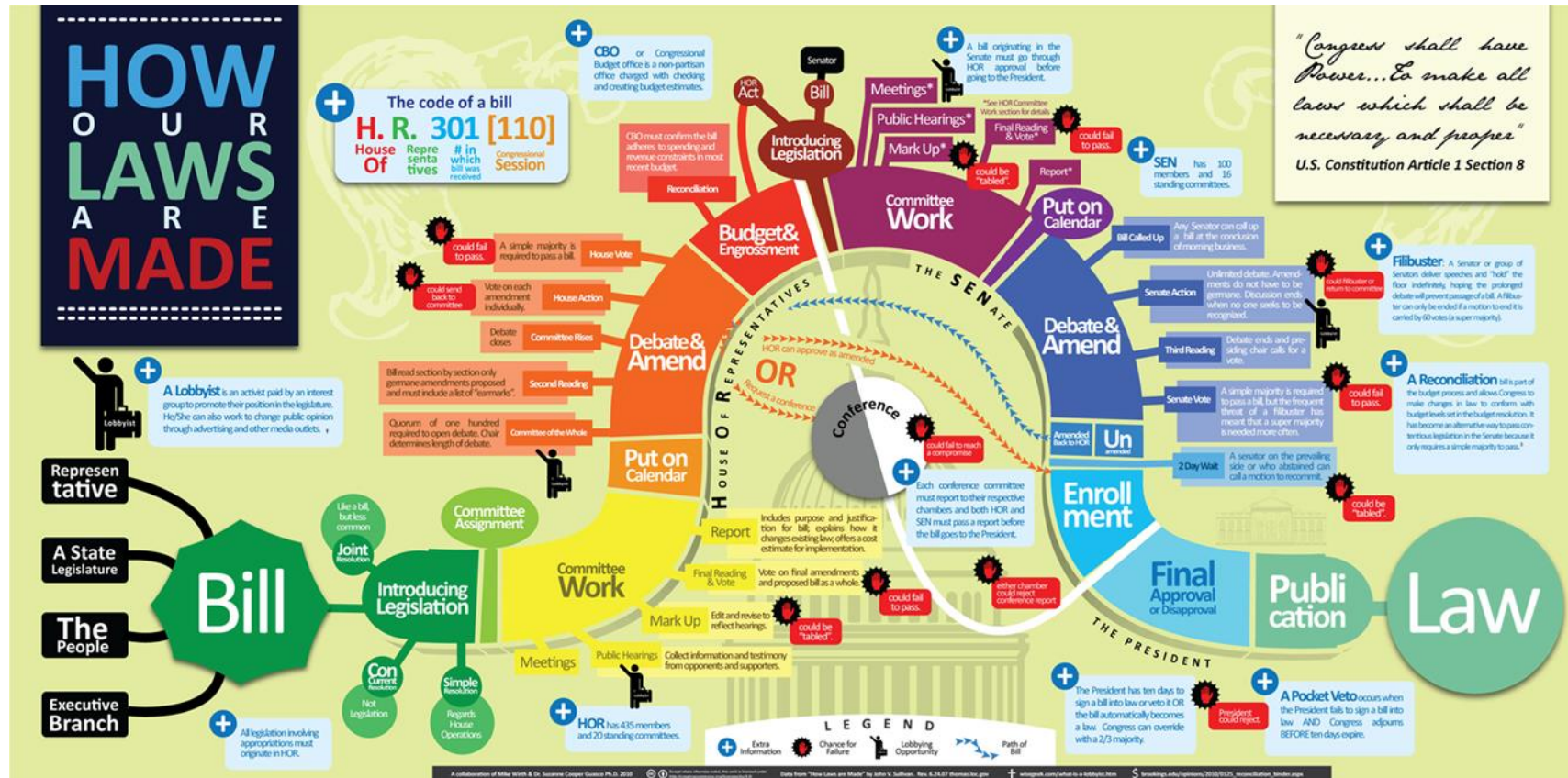- Rinse and Repeat

Conference
- House and Senate Vote

President
- Signature or Veto

How a Bill Really Becomes a Law

Implementation

- Agency Rulemaking
    - Long, bureaucratic process to develop rules
    - Requires public notice and comment
    - Congress can disapprove or overturn regulations
    - Judicial Branch can nullify regulations

Just because a bill becomes law doesn't mean it will be implemented immediately or clearly

Impoundment
When the executive branch holds back money Congress approved

- Power of the purse resides with Congress (Article I)

- Executive agencies are responsible for spending the funds as authorized by Congress (**"authorizing statute"**)

- *Impoundment Control Act of 1974* requires the executive branch to spend federal money as Congress directs; outlines procedures and deadlines the president must follow to reduce, delay or eliminate appropriated funding (e.g., the president must obtain congressional approval)

- Rescission under ICA only applies to unobligated funds

- Grants are generally considered obligated upon award

Loper Bright Enterprises v. Raimondo (2024)

- ▸ Overturns 40-year precedent known as the "Chevron deference"
- ▸ Chevron gave federal agencies discretion to clarify ambiguous laws passed by Congress
- ▸ Courts no longer required to be deferential to executive agencies when interpreting unclear statute, likely resulting in:
  - More litigation
  - Increased need for congressional clarity;
  - Increased judicial scrutiny; and
  - The need for more clear rulemaking.

- ▸ **Recasts balance of government power away from the executive to the judicial branch**

Computer Engineering Major

Marco M. Nicotra, Kim McGregor, Joseph Izraelevitz, Tamara Lehman,
Fabio Somenzi, Taylor Barton, Arielle Blum, Talles Santos,
Mackenzie Hatcher, Debbie Yeh, Travis Wood

Be Boulder.

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Background

Status Quo

➢ Our department offers two Majors

- **Electrical Engineering (EE)**

- **Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE)**

➢ Due to its dual (EE+CE) focus, the ECE major has very little flexibility

- There are two core sequences in the **Critical Path to Graduation**

➢ The EE curriculum is diluted (only <u>one</u> Advanced Analog Core requirement)

➢ The CE is missing key components

Objective

➢ Propose a flexible CE Major that enables students to pursue their interests

- CE Focus: Component-level design, embedded programming

- EE Minor (Hardware Focus): Transistor-level design / signal processing

- CS Minor (Software Focus): Higher-level programming / artificial intelligence

ECE vs CE

Freshmen Year

Current ECE Major		15
APPM 1350	Calculus 1	4
PHYS 1110	Physics 1	4
ECEN 1100	Exploring ECE	1
ECEN 1400	Intro to Electronics	3
COEN 1830	First-Year Seminar	1
	HSS Elective	2
Current ECE Major		16
APPM 1360	Calculus 2	4
PHYS 1120	Physics 2	4
PHYS 1140	Physics Lab	1
ECEN 1310	Programming	4
	HSS Elective	3

Sophomore Year

Current ECE Major		18
APPM 2360	Diff. Eq. + Lin. Alg.	4
ECEN 2250	Circuits 1	3
ECEN 2350	Digital 1	4
CSCI 2270	Data Structures	4
	HSS Elective	3
Current ECE Major		16
APPM 2350	Calculus 3	4
ECEN 2260	Circuits 2	3
ECEN 2360	Digital 2	3
ECEN 2370	Digital Lab	3
	Sophomore Elective	3

*EE Minor: Circuits 2
*CS Minor: Computer Systems

ECE vs CE

Junior Year

Current ECE Major		15
ECEN 2270	Circuits Lab	3
ECEN 2703	Discrete Math	3
ECEN 3810	Probability	3
ECEN 3593	Computer Organization	3
	Technical Elective	3
Current ECE Major		**15**
ECEN 3753	Real-Time Operating Sys	3
ECEN 3xxx	Advanced Analog Core	3
	Technical Elective	3
	Science Elective	3
	HSS Elective	3

*EE Minor: Circuits Lab
*CS Minor: CS Core

**EE Minor: EE Elective
**CS Minor: CS Elective

ECE vs CE

Senior Year

Current ECE Major		15
ECEN 4610	Capstone 1	3
	ECE Elective	3
	Technical Elective	3
	HSS Elective	3
	Free Elective	3
Current ECE Major		18
ECEN 4620	Capstone 2	3
	ECE Elective	3
	Technical Elective	3
	Technical Elective	3
	HSS Elective	3
	Free Elective	3