

Monthly College of Engineering Updates

January 2009

CoE Faculty and Staff,

I hope that everyone had a wonderful holiday break. Like me, I am sure you are trying to take advantage of this intersession period to catch up things that did not get done last semester, and to get ready for the upcoming semester. Good luck!

Tomorrow we will welcome both a new President of the United States, and also a new Governor of Delaware. There is no doubt that we will see many changes in the coming months at the state and national level, and I expect these changes will present many exciting opportunities for us here at UD.

Closer to home, we are continuing to make progress on defining what the “Path to Prominence” means to the College of Engineering. The College’s Strategic Planning Committee has prepared an excellent document (<https://www.engr.udel.edu/main/Strategic%20Plan%20Draft%208.pdf>) that was used as the basis of a college leadership retreat held in mid-December. One of the outcomes of the retreat was that I have asked each of the departments to develop 5 action steps that they believe are most important to helping us achieve our goals. The action steps are due in March, and will be incorporated into the strategic plan. At that point, an expanded version of the plan, with specific goals, action steps, and metrics will be presented to the entire college community for input, refinement, and validation. I expect us to have a completed plan by the end of May 2009.

Finally, this is the time of year that we begin to actively recruit new faculty, graduate students, and undergraduate students. I am very hopeful that we will have an excellent recruiting year, and I thank you all for the time that you devote to these efforts. While the economy creates challenges for us, I am convinced that we are in better shape than most of our counterparts, and therefore have the opportunity to recruit some truly outstanding people.

Wishing you all the best on this Martin Luther King holiday.

Michael

February 2009

Dear ECAC Members,

I hope that everyone had a wonderful holiday season. It seems like just yesterday, but now January is gone as well. In just a week, classes will resume at UD, and everyone here is scrambling to get there unfinished to-do-lists whittled down before then.

The following message will provide you with an update of some of the happenings in the college. I would like to have a mid-year meeting via conference call in the later part of the spring, and will be contacting you soon to schedule that.

During the past month, our country has welcomed a new President – Barack Obama, a new Vice President – Joe Biden, UD’ 65, and Delaware has welcomed a new Governor – Jack Markell. There is no doubt that we will see many changes in the coming months at the state and national level, and I expect these changes will present many exciting opportunities for us here at UD.

Closer to home, we are continuing to make progress on defining what the “Path to Prominence” means to the College of Engineering. The initial draft of our strategic plan was used as the basis of a college leadership retreat held in mid-December. One of the outcomes of the retreat was a focused set of goals, actions steps, and resources needs for the college (see attached document). With these in mind, I have asked each of the departments to identify 5 action steps that they believe are most important to helping us achieve our goals. The action steps are due March 1st, and will be incorporated into the strategic plan. At that point, an expanded version of the plan, with comprehensive goals, action steps, and metrics will be developed and presented to the our many constituents for input, refinement, and validation. I expect us to have a completed plan by the end of May 2009 (see timeline below).

- Department action steps – by March 1, 2009
- Revised strategic plan with associated specific goals and action steps – by April 1, 2009
- Input from college constituents on the plan (faculty, staff, students, advisory groups) – by May 1, 2009
- Final plan – by June 1, 2009

One area that we continue to expand is our interaction with alumni. Our alumni have done wonderful things, and we need to keep them engaged in the college. I just returned from a productive trip to Florida to meet with engineering alums (very well timed as I missed the freezing rain event last week). The alumni I saw are excited about the future opportunities that lay ahead for the college, and we are working hard to find ways that they can be a part of our future plans. Later this spring we will be having dinners with small groups of alums in Houston, Northern California, and Boston. If any of you know of alumni that we should be including in our development efforts, please let either Armand Battisti aab@udel.edu or I know.

I am glad to report that our undergraduate applications are up again this year. Engineering is up 12.7%, with the largest growth being in Environmental Engineering (up 60%). We have identified growth of the college as one of our goals over the next 5 years, and this will involve growing not only the size of our faculty and staff, but also of our student body (both undergraduate and graduate). The application trends are very positive, and I expect us to have a healthy freshman class.

February brings National Engineers Week (Feb. 15 - 21). The student chapters will be organizing a series of events during the week. One of the events that the college hosts is the "Order of the Ring" ceremony for seniors. This event, scheduled for February 17, is the beginning of a series of events for our senior class that will culminate in graduation on May 30, 2009. Another event for our students during National Engineers Week is the 11th Annual Engineering Job Fair scheduled for Wednesday, February 13. We are working hard to ensure that our seniors, despite the challenging economy, can find high quality jobs.

Finally, this is the time of year that we are heavily involved in recruiting new faculty, graduate students, as well as undergraduate students. I am very hopeful that we will have an excellent recruiting year (one search that will start soon is for a Chair Professor to lead our Energy Institute). While the economy creates challenges for us, I am convinced that we are in better shape than most of our counterparts, and therefore have the opportunity to recruit some truly outstanding people.

Michael

March 2009

CoE Faculty and Staff,

As the snow has now stopped, and I sit here in the calm after the storm, I thought I would write my monthly update to the college.

While I realize that we have been bombarding you with information on the Stimulus Package, please do make an effort to find out how it will affect the major sponsors that you interact with. In terms of research support, the goal is to increase funding success rates, and to put additional funds into research equipment (without required match). This can only help us in these tight financial times, so please take advantage of it.

As we interview candidates for faculty positions and department chairs (ME and ECE), we have the chance to hire some really outstanding individuals. To do this, we will need to be very resourceful in pulling together funds for start-up packages. We will be looking for any and all help that we can get in this effort. Please let me know if you are aware of any funds that can be used for this that may not be obvious (for example, there are COBRE grants from NIH that provide start-up support for new faculty).

As I have talked about at the department faculty meetings that I have attended, and as Marty Parsons discussed at a recent all staff meeting, we are in the midst of evaluating how the college can provide the best possible business office(s). Marty has assembled, and been working with, Process Flow Improvement Teams (PFIT) in the areas of Research and Financial Reporting, Transactions Processing, and Human Resources. We

are now at the point where we can share the recommendations of the PFIT's with the faculty. We are planning an all-faculty meeting in mid-March to present the ideas that have been developed.

I will also share an update on the transition to RBB at the mid-March meeting. Please note that this meeting will be in addition to the College Faculty Meeting on April 15 at which we will discuss the College Strategic Plan. Knowing that we will discuss support staff and RBB, I am hopeful we will have a good turnout at this additional meeting.

One critical step that the College of Engineering needs to take in order to achieve our future goals is to develop a comprehensive space plan. To achieve this, we have begun working with an outside architect to conduct a capacity study for the college. This will allow us to assess how we are currently using our space, and in turn, enable us to develop a comprehensive short- and long-term space plan. This past Thursday and Friday, Tom Buchanan walked through the college with the architect and a person from UD facilities. I will share the results with you at one of the two college meetings (depending upon when we have something to share). Please note that this effort is being coordinated with the overall campus planning effort that will result in a coherent long-range plan for engineering and science space.

Michael

P.S. Please continue to send story ideas and award recognitions to Diane Kukich dkukich@udel.edu. Twice a year in these messages I plan to recognize the wonderful accomplishments of our faculty, staff, students, and alums.

From: Chajes, Michael J. [mailto:chajes@UDel.Edu]
Sent: Monday, February 23, 2009 8:07 AM
To: 'eg-faculty@udel.edu'; 'eg-staff@udel.edu'
Subject: Carrie Qualls to join the College of Engineering Communications Group

CoE Faculty and Staff,

I am pleased to announce that Carrie Qualls will be joining the College of Engineering Communications Group. As many of you know, Carrie is currently the graphics coordinator for Chemical Engineering.

I believe it is critical for us to have a top notch communications group in the college (and I know you share this view). With Diane Kukich coordinating writing, and Carrie Qualls coordinating graphics/web activities, we have a very solid team. It is my expectation that Carrie and Diane will work for and with the college, departments, and individuals. Diane and Carrie will also be tapping into services at the Office of Communications and Marketing (OCM).

While the amount of work that can be handled will be better known over time, I encourage you to contact either Diane dkukich@udel.edu or Carrie cq@udel.edu if you have story ideas, or need writing or graphics help on proposals or projects. It is my

intention to have them assist on all center grant proposals, and with proper lead time, they can likely help on smaller proposals as well. One of Carrie's assignments will be to oversee the development of college and department web sites in a manner that they can be maintained by individual departments.

Please join me in welcoming Carrie Qualls to the College of Engineering Communications Group, and please do not hesitate to call on either Carrie or Diane for assistance.

Michael

From: Chajes, Michael J. [mailto:chajes@UDel.Edu]
Sent: Monday, February 23, 2009 8:03 AM
To: 'eg-faculty@udel.edu'; 'eg-staff@udel.edu'
Subject: Changes in College-level Academic Affairs & Undergraduate Advisement

CoE Faculty and Staff,

I am writing to announce that the college has re-organized multiple academic affairs functions under one unit called the **Office of Academic Affairs**. This academic affairs organization is led by Michael Vaughan, Senior Assistant Dean of the College. Functions associated with this new office are **undergraduate advisement, enrollment management, student success & diversity, and engineering outreach**.

As you are aware, Dan Boulet, Assistant Dean for Undergraduate Affairs retired at the end of Fall 2008 after 19+ years of service. It is my pleasure to announce that **Mr. F. Charles (Chuck) Shermeyer** has been named the Assistant Dean for Engineering Undergraduate Advisement (a newly defined position) effective today, February 23, 2009. To facilitate the transition and continuity within this function, we have retained Dan Boulet (Assistant Dean Emeritus) as an Undergraduate Advisement Consultant.

Mr. Shermeyer most recently served as Coordinator of the UD Summer College and Honors Publications. In this role, Chuck directed and managed all aspects of the UD Summer College (SC) programming, produced University Honors Program (UHP) course booklets, directed the maintenance and upgrade of the UHP and SC websites, advised Honors University Studies students until declaration of their major, participated in planning and executing UHP recruitment activities, and maintained UHP alumni records and produced web-based Alumni Class Notes. In addition, Chuck is the former Assistant to the UD Vice President for Student Life & Director of Student Life Administration and Technology. Chuck has also served in various capacities within the UD Residence Life organization. Chuck holds a B.S. in Education/Chemistry and an M.S. in Counseling/Student Personnel Administration both from Shippensburg University.

Please join me in welcoming Assistant Dean Shermeyer to our College.

We have developed a new **College Advisement Office** which houses most of our College-level undergraduate student educational support infrastructure. This facility,

housed in 141 DuPont Hall, is comprised of undergraduate advisement and student success & diversity which will be led by Mr. Shermeyer and Ms. Marianne Johnson, respectively, and supported by Ms. Susan LaMedica. The student success & diversity function includes activities to ensure student development (such as student organizations), our nationally recognized RISE Program, and our undergraduate Women in Engineering activities which continue to grow in both scope and impact.

In addition to the College Advisement Office, the remainder of the **Office of Academic Affairs** is housed in the Dean's Office, 102 DuPont Hall. As I mentioned previously, the entire organization is led by Michael Vaughan, Senior Assistant Dean of the College, and supported by Ms. Nancy Bickings. The organization also includes engineering outreach which is led by Assistant Dean Kathy Werrell, and supported by Mr. Joe Tanner and Ms. Nadine Neiger, and enrollment management statistics and recognition & events which is coordinated by Ms. Terrie Kalesse.

I will provide further update as we continue to refine the interface between our College academic affairs organization, our academic departments, and other College units.

If you have any questions as to how to utilize the Office of Academic Affairs, please contact Michael Vaughan vaughan@udel.edu

Michael

From: Chajes, Michael J.
Sent: Saturday, February 21, 2009 2:28 PM
To: eg-faculty@udel.edu; eg-staff@udel.edu
Subject: Developing a College Space Plan

CoE Faculty and Staff,

One critical step that the College of Engineering needs to take in order to achieve our future goals is to develop a comprehensive space plan. To achieve this, we have begun working with an outside Architect to conduct a capacity study for the college. This will allow us to assess how we are currently using our space, and in turn, enable us to develop a comprehensive short- and long-term space plan.

The architect will be on campus this coming Thursday and Friday (February 26 and 27). Tom Buchanan will serve as their host, and we will be having one person from each department accompany the group while they are in each respective department.

As you all know, our current space is very limited, and we need to identify the best ways to move forward. The space survey will position us well as the campus plan evolves.

There is no need for you to make special preparations for the architects visit, I simply want you to know what is happening in case you or your students come across our visitors.

Michael

April 1, 2009

CoE Faculty and Staff,

Let me start by congratulating the following people on receiving (or being selected to receive) some very prestigious awards and recognitions:

- Matthew Doty (MSE) has received an NSF CAREER award for his work on quantum dot molecules.
- Chris Meehan (CEE) has received an NSF CAREER award to study the seismic behavior of slickensided surfaces.
- Joshua Zide (MSE) has received an ONR Young Investigator award.
- Zachary Ulissi (BChE2009) is the recipient of a DOE Computational Science Graduate Fellowship that will total some \$250,000 over the next four years.
- T. W. Fraser Russell (ChE) has been selected to receive the Lifetime Achievement in Chemical Engineering Pedagogical Scholarship Award from the American Society of Engineering Education (ASEE).
- Bramie Lenhoff (ChE) has been selected to receive the 2009 Alan S. Michaels Award in the Recovery of Biological Products from the Biochemical Technology Division of the American Chemical Society and has also received the 2009 American Chemical Society National Award in Separations Science and Technology.
- Tom Buchanan (ME) has been elected a fellow of the American Institute for Medical & Biological Engineering (AIMBE) and the American Congress of Sports Medicine (ACSM).

If you have received an award since January 1, 2009, and it is not listed here, that means that Diane Kukich is not aware of it (and we will include it in a following update). Please inform Diane about awards that you or our students receive (or have received) so that we can publicize them dkukich@udel.edu.

Please attend the **College Faculty Meeting on April 15 at 1:15 PM in 106 CCM**. We will be having an open forum to discuss the college strategic plan, and the items that were submitted by departments. One thing that I am very interested in having a discussion about are the 3-5 large areas that we, as a college, desire to assume national and international leadership in. We need to identify these areas, provide resources to grow them, initiate cluster hiring to support them, and go after and win large center grants to solidify them. If you have input regarding what these areas should be, please send me your comments.

There has been some very exciting developments regarding new building projects on campus that should allow us to significantly ease our growing space crisis. I will provide an update on these projects at the college faculty meeting.

There is nothing new to report on the budget situation. We are still waiting for June 30th to roll around at which time the state will pass their budget, and we will know where we stand. In the meantime, we are trying to be very judicious in how we allocate our resources.

As some of us worry about how deep the cuts may be, I know that people are aggressively jumping on the stimulus band wagon and submitting many proposals. This will help a great deal, and I thank you for your efforts. We also have several center proposals in consideration, and I am hopeful that we will hit one or two of these.

Finally, after months of deliberation, the administration has decided to not adopt the RBB model – (April fools).

Have a great day.

Michael

P.S. As you know, I have initiated holding office hours. Please use this time to drop by and share your thoughts with me.

May 1, 2009

College External Advisory Council,

The semester is in the final stretch, and I know that everyone is running at full speed to keep up. Thank you for all your efforts.

CoE Lands Major Center Grant

One of the top goals in our strategic plan is to win new major research centers. We received great news this past week that a group of our faculty members were successful in getting an Energy Frontier Research Center (EFRC) from the Department of Energy. The UD EFRC, funded for \$17.5 million over five years, will focus on the development of innovative catalytic technologies for the efficient conversion of biomass such as trees and grasses into chemicals, electricity, and fuels.

Dion Vlachos will serve as Director of the EFRC, and Jingguang Chen and Raul Lobo will be Co-directors. Other participating UD faculty include Mark Barteau, Kelvin Lee, Stan Sandler, Doug Buttrey, and Jochen Lauterbach from Chemical Engineering and Doug Doren from Chemistry and Biochemistry.

The grants were announced by the White House in conjunction with a speech delivered by President Barack Obama at the annual meeting of the National Academy of Sciences on Monday, April 27.

Development Activities

Another critical component of the strategic plan is to develop the resources needed to support our efforts. I have had the chance to meet with numerous alums over the past few months and share our strategic plan with them. My trips have included going to Florida, Houston, and Boston, as well as traveling throughout the Mid-Atlantic region. I also have an upcoming trip to California in a few weeks. The alums I have spoken with are impressed by our accomplishments to date, and excited about our vision for the future. I am confident that they will find ways to support our college. If you know of alumni that we should be reaching out to, please let Armand or I know.

Undergraduate Enrollment

Today is the final day for undergraduate applicants to decide where they will attend school next fall. Therefore, our success in attracting the Class of 2013 will soon be know. Our target for next year is 475 students, and all signs are that we will attain this goal. As we grow our UG population and our research activities, we will be in an excellent position to grow the size of our faculty and support staff. Of course, that will require a growth in space (see below).

Building Update

Discussions regarding the new \$120M Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering Building (ISEB) are starting, and I expect our college to benefit greatly from this new facility. As we move forward, I am sure that I will be calling on several of you to assist in the planning.

Upcoming Events

Please mark your calendars for the following upcoming events:

- Honors Day, May 8. We will honor students, several outstanding alumni, and faculty at the college event that starts at 2:30 pm in Pearson Hall. A reception in the DuPont Hall lobby for our honored alums will follow the ceremony (approximately 4:00 pm).
- UD graduation and college commencement, May 30.
- Reunion weekend, June 5-7. On Friday evening, June 5, the college will be holding a reception for our alums. We need to have faculty at this event.
- T. W. Fraser Russell Symposium, August 24.

All the best for the remainder of the semester.

Michael

June 1, 2009

CoE Faculty and Staff,

The semester is in over! This past weekend we awarded 247 bachelor degrees, 72 master degrees, and 55 doctoral degrees. I thank those that participated at the ceremonies, it was a very enjoyable weekend for our students and their families and friends.

I am sure May was a busy month for all, it certainly was for me. In addition to the graduation events, I traveled to California for visits with alumni (including a reception at the house of Bill Mavity – thanks again Bill), and to Korea to attend the groundbreaking ceremony for a potential UD campus site in Incheon. We had a very successful honors day for our students, and our alums were recognized with two UD Wall of Fame awards (Francis “Skip” E. Gardiner, Jr., CEE, and Robert D. Fleck, Jr., ChE) and three College of Engineering Outstanding Alumni awards (Steve McKnight, MSE, E. Alan Uebler, ChE, and Sean Wang, ECE).

Other notable updates include:

Undergraduate Enrollment Update

We requested an incoming class of 475 freshmen for next year, and it looks like we will get about 500. This is obviously significant growth, and gives us the chance to add new majors like biomedical engineering to help spread out some of the students. If we can retain these students at the same (or even better rate) as before, we will be well on our way to gaining the resources needed to expand the college as planned.

Computer and Information Sciences Update

On May 27, 2009, I met with the faculty of the Computer and Information Sciences (CIS) department. I presented the CoE Strategic Plan, and invited them to join the CoE. I presented a host of reasons why it would be a mutually beneficial move for both parties. The presentation was very well received, and the CIS department will take a vote in early September. I am very hopeful that they will choose to join the CoE, and I will continue to interact with them this summer to explore this option. I really believe that the timing is right. The department is roughly the size of our ECE department in terms of faculty and students.

Building Update

Planning for the new \$120M Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering Building (ISEB) is progressing. The Board of Trustees approved moving ahead with this project at the May board meeting, and a completion date of spring 2013 has been set. A \$15M proposal to NIH to help fund a new building for the Delaware Rehabilitation Institute - DRI (to be located at the Delaware Technology Park) is about to be submitted. Deputy Dean Tom Buchanan has been leading the DRI effort for the college. In addition to these two projects, the architect that was hired to conduct a space survey and long-range plan for the CoE is close to completing the task. We had a preliminary review of the findings last week, and have identified about 285,000 sq. ft. (gross) of new building space (we currently have about 335,000 gross sq. ft. of space). This will give us sufficient room to grow and also to renovate existing buildings like Spencer Hall. I look forward to continuing to work with the architects and the chairs this summer, and plan to present

concepts to you next fall. Funding for both ISEB, DRI, and any other projects will fall more on the college than in the past, so fundraising efforts will continue to ramp up.

Communication and Marketing Update

Diane and Carrie are working on revamping the college and department web pages, and revising the college's alumni e-newsletter. We are also planning a suite of promotional materials that will go out throughout the year to Dean's, Department Heads, and Industry Leaders to promote UD's CoE. These materials will also go out to alumni and friends of the college. I know many of you are busy writing proposals to capture some of the stimulus money. Please do not hesitate to contact Diane or Carrie if they can be of help to you. For those of you working on ERC proposals or other large center grants, please let Diane know so that she can assist you. The projects above are large ones, but we expect to make significant progress this summer.

Upcoming Events

Please mark your calendars for the following upcoming events:

- Reunion weekend, June 5-7. On Friday evening, June 5, the college will be holding a reception for our alums. Please consider attending this event. Details can be found at: <http://www.udconnection.com/ReunionWeekend> or call the Office of Alumni Relations at 831-8741.
- UD Staff Appreciation Day, Monday, June 8, 2009 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm under the tent on the green.
- T. W. Fraser Russell Symposium, August 24.

I hope all of you have a healthy and productive summer.

Michael

July, 2009

Engineering College Advisory Council,

I hope you all had an enjoyable 4th of July weekend with family and friends. The weather here in Newark was wonderful, and if you were traveling, I hope you had pleasant weather as well.

Budget

The fiscal year has begun, and we are waiting for the final word on how the 7% state budget cut (combined with increasing costs) and reduced endowment income will mean for us. We are expecting a modest budget cut, and I will work with the department chairs to mitigate the effects of that cut. As you know, some of this will be offset by a large freshman class. Information on tuition for next year will be released soon (this will also impact the budget).

Undergraduate Recruiting

As I reported last month, we are expecting a little more than 500 freshmen this coming fall. DelaWorld (summer orientation) has begun, and Chuck Shermeyer is doing his best to find our students seats in their required classes. This coming Saturday, we begin a new recruiting year with Discovery Days. I thank those of you that have volunteered to help at these important recruiting events.

Faculty Recruiting

I am working with the chairs to finalize plans for next year's faculty searches. Several areas have been identified for which we will develop long-range plans and conduct interdisciplinary cluster searches. Committee will be formed to develop these plans and to serve on the interdisciplinary search committees. The committees will coordinate with department searches in cases where the identified candidates fall into a designated cluster area. This will allow us to create the needed critical mass to become a national leader in targeted areas, and to compete for major research centers. I would expect a significant number of our future hires to be in these strategic areas.

Honors and Announcements

Kenneth Barner, Chair of Electrical and Computer Engineering, effective July 1, 2009
David Martin, Chair of Materials Science and Engineering, effective July 1, 2009

Tom Buchanan, George W. Laird Professor of Mechanical Engineering
Michael Mackay, Distinguished Professor of Materials Science and Engineering
David Martin, Karl W & Renate Boer Chair of Materials Science and Engineering

NSF Career Awards – Matt Doty, Chris Meehan, and Jack Puleo
Air Force Young Investigator Awards – Thomas Epps and Erik Thostenson
ONR Young Investigator Award – Joshua Zide

Upcoming Events

Please mark your calendars for the following upcoming events:

- Delaware Discovery Days, July 11, 18, and 25
- T. W. Fraser Russell Symposium, August 24

Michael

September, 2009

Dear ECAC Members,

I hope you all have had a productive summer. We here at UD are ready for a new academic year to begin. Today, I gave the initial lectures to the EGCG 101 Introduction to Engineering class. We have 522 incoming freshmen this year! This level of enrollment will allow us to begin the growth of the college that is part of our strategic plan. In order for the college to sustain 150 – 175 faculty, we need to have an

undergraduate student population of somewhere in the range of 1,950 to 2,450 students (13 or 14 to 1 student to faculty ratio). At 150 – 175 faculty, we would also have approximately 750 – 875 graduate students (5 to 1 student to faculty ratio). With 522 freshmen, we are on pace to have 1,700 undergraduate students. This is an excellent start. The breakdown of the incoming class of 2013 is as follows:

Chemical Engineering – 120

Civil and Environmental Engineering – 103 (73 civil, 30 environmental)

Electrical and Computer Engineering – 75 (31 computer, 44 electrical)

Mechanical Engineering – 131

Engineering Undecided - 93

Below are updates on some other items of interest.

Financial Picture

I just returned from a trip to California during which I visited 3 of the UC's as well as Stanford. While we may think our budget situation is grim, it is much better than the California schools. The UC's are taking an 8% furlough (days off with no pay), and they have a hiring freeze and are not replacing positions where people leave or retire.

Here at UD, our final RBB budget model for FY10 has been set. Due to budget cuts across campus, this will be a tight year for all colleges. I am working with the chairs to make sure that we stay within our budget. The amount of discretionary support that we have is certainly limited. The best way to mitigate this situation in the short term is to increase our proposal activity (which has been occurring). I appreciate your efforts to seek external funds for your research, and I know that many of you have been working late hours to meet short deadlines related to stimulus funding. The increased student enrollment will help in the years to come, as will increased number of professional masters students, and increased support from donors. We will also be looking at ways to make our operations more efficient.

Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering Building (ISEB)

Plans are continuing for the ISEB building. This will be a tremendous addition to the university and college. It will house core research facilities, the Institutes for Energy and the Environment, and problem-based learning laboratories for introductory science classes. The College of Engineering is expected to contribute approximately 20% of the cost of the building, as is the College of Arts and Sciences.

Cluster Hires

In addition to normal department faculty searches, this year we will be initiating the concept of cluster hires in three areas: bio, composites, and energy. Committees will be working on searching in these three areas, and will be coordinating with department searches that are also identifying candidates in these areas. It is anticipated that several of these hires will have joint appointments. In future years, we will be expanding cluster hiring into other areas including environment, infrastructure, information technology and advanced computing, nanotechnology, and national security.

Fall Faculty Meeting and Donuts with the Dean

We will be setting the dates for these two fall meetings shortly. I encourage all faculty to attend the Fall Faculty meeting, and all staff to attend the Donuts with the Dean meeting. There is a lot of change occurring on campus and in the college. This meeting will provide the chance to get an update on issues including: the colleges strategic and annual plan, budget, reorganization, ISEB, ABET, and policies related to graduate tuition and research match monies.

Reception of New Faculty, New Department Chairs, and Junior Faculty Awards Recipients – September 20, 2009

In recognition of our new faculty, new department chairs, and early career award recipients, a reception will be held at my house on September 20, 2009. Please join us at this annual event (official invitations should arrive shortly). RSVP to engr-events@udel.edu

Michael

P.S. The web site for council membership can be found at:

http://www.engr.udel.edu/directory/advisory_council.html

Each person has a short bio that can be accessed by clicking on their name.

P.P.S. Should any of you wish to attend a UD Football game this fall, please let me know.

October, 2009

Dear ECAC Members,

Below is the October update that I will be sending to the college faculty and staff. I hope you find it informative. I am looking forward to the council meeting on November 3 and 4. Crystal Maccari will be in touch this week to provide you with some logistical information. I plan to use the council website to post materials for the meeting so that you can review them ahead of time www.engr.udel.edu/directory/advisory_council.html. I expect to have materials available a week ahead of time.

Take care.

Michael

October 2009

College of Engineering Faculty and Staff:

At our upcoming College Faculty Meeting (October 22 at 3:30 PM) and Donuts with the Dean Staff Meeting (November 24 at 2:00 PM), I plan to discuss action items for the college that will propel us along the Path to Prominence. In preparation for that, I have included our list of key action items that will help enable us to reach our ambitious goals. UD's upper administration is providing our college with a unique opportunity to expand and excel. It is critical that we work together to take advantage of it. I encourage everyone to attend the college-wide meetings and to identify areas where you can help lead the college forward.

College of Engineering Goals and Action Items

The goals of the college can be summarized as follows:

- Improve the college ranking from 46 to 30 (i.e. become a premier engineering school).
- Increase the size and productivity of the college (by 50% in 5 years, 100% in 10 years).
- Ensure excellence in everything that we do.

The key action items for the college are:

- Recruit outstanding faculty through traditional and cluster searches.
- Train future leaders by providing robust learning experiences to students at all levels.
- Apply for and win major research centers.
- Increase multidisciplinary research activities.
- Create core research facilities.
- Develop and implement a long-range space plan.
- Improve faculty and student diversity, and develop a critical mass of women faculty.
- Recruit computer science to the college.
- Strengthen interactions with the Lerner College of Business and Economics.
- Establish a new undergraduate program in biomedical engineering and an interdisciplinary bioengineering graduate program.
- Establish new professional degree programs and 4+1 BS/MS programs.
- Establish research and educational partnerships with Aberdeen Proving Grounds.
- Establish a global activities committee to coordinate international programs.
- Prepare for ABET.
- Recruit high quality graduate students with first year fellowships.
- Recruit high quality undergraduate students with enrichment scholarships.
- Expand development efforts to ensure that we have the resources needed to reach our goals.
- Develop a clear brand for the college and improve communications and marketing.
- Implement a business model and organizational structure that will enable the college to grow and excel.

Faculty Searches

This is undoubtedly the most important activity that we engage in each year. I know that many of you are a part of either a department or cluster search committee. I encourage you to actively identify and recruit the very best future colleagues. I will do everything

that I can to support your efforts. While our ability to hire is not unlimited, President Harker has made hiring new faculty a top priority, and I intend to make sure the College of Engineering takes a lead in bringing in top talent to UD.

Undergraduate Recruiting

This past Saturday was the first Blue and Gold recruiting event. I thank all of you that participated in this important activity. Even more important than growing the size of our student body, is growing its quality. In order to do that, we need to excel in our recruiting activities. In addition to this, we will be working closely with both departments and the admissions office, in the area of enrollment management, to ensure that we grow at a manageable rate.

Bioengineering

The college's efforts in the area of bioengineering are broad-based, and have continued to expand over the past several years. I believe that this is the right time to create a college-wide effort in bioengineering at the graduate level. It is therefore with great pleasure that I announce the appointment of Professor Anne Robinson as Director of the Bioengineering Graduate Program in the College of Engineering. I am very pleased that Professor Robinson has agreed to take on the challenge of developing and leading this effort, and can think of no one on our faculty better suited to do this.

As Director of the Bioengineering Graduate Program, I have asked Professor Robinson to (1) work with colleagues across the college, and across campus, to develop this new college-wide graduate program with associated curriculum and courses, core bioengineering laboratory facilities, seminar series, and yearly symposia, (2) pursue training grant funding, (3) develop an industrial internship program, and (4) lead an internal executive committee and establish an external advisory committee.

I am sure that Professor Robinson will seek input and suggestions from anyone interested in taking part in this initiative, and I know that she will be able to count on your help to make this new graduate program a tremendous success.

ABET

Our ABET evaluators will be visiting the College of Engineering in the Fall of 2011. That means that our final self-studies will be due on July 1, 2011. Departments will be expected to produce draft reports this academic year. I expect everyone to support this effort, and to make providing the needed materials a priority.

Michael

From: Chajes, Michael J.
Sent: Saturday, October 24, 2009 4:04 PM
Subject: UD to Acquire Chrysler Site

Dear ECAC Members,

Thought I would send you the exciting news about Chrysler! See you all soon. Materials for the meeting will be up on the web site soon (and I will let you know when they are posted).

<http://www.udel.edu/udaily/2010/oct/chrysler102409.html>

Michael