

## Faculty Meeting Minutes (Open session)

January 10, 2022 | 2:30 - 3:30 pm | Benson Hall, Room 109- ZOOM

Attendance:

Meeting start: 2:30 | Adjourn 3:30

**Faculty Present (blank=absent)**

Department Chair, Jim Pfaendtner - Present

Stu Adler	P	Cole DeForest	P	Jorge Marchand	P	Ben Rutz	P	Neda Bagheri
François Baneyx	P	Hugh Hillhouse	P	Shachi Mittal	P	Daniel Schwartz	P	Cao Guozhong
David Beck	P	Vince Holmberg	P	Elizabeth Nance	P	Eric Stuve		Jonathan Posner
John Berg		Samson Jenekhe	P	Rene Overney	P	Stephanie Valteau	P	
David Bergsman	P	Mary Lidstrom	P	Lilo Pozzo	P			
James Carothers	P	Jun Liu		Buddy Ratner				

**Others Present**

Debbie Carnes	Dave Drischell	Nicole Minkoff		
Nicole Devine	Andrea Gleichweith	Lindsey Doermann		

### AGENDA

- Approval of minutes from 11/22 and 12/6 meeting
- Announcements/updates
- Discussion of COVID and Winter Quarter teaching (Pfaendtner)
- Grad advisor renewal vote for David Beck (Pfaendtner)
- Affiliate faculty P&T vote for Chun-Long Chen & Yi He (Pfaendtner)
- Undergraduate program presentation on courses and course vote (Nance)
- Faculty search review and discussion of final candidates (Pfaendtner/DeForest/Nance)

### Approval of minutes from 11/22 and 12/6 meeting

Jim noted that some corrections had already been made and asked if there were any vocal additions or deletions to the minutes. No objections were made, and the minutes were approved.

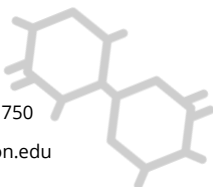
### Announcements/Updates

Welcome Jorge. This is his first official faculty meeting after a hire date of January 1, 2022.

Quick reminder that March 18 will be on-site grad recruiting day. Jim encouraged even if you are not planning to recruit PhD candidates next year that your participation is still very welcome and appreciated. All hands-on deck!

Vaccination status of department on-site volunteers needs to be documented and a form completed/approved before someone can be a volunteer. Contact Debbie about the form and any questions.

International students who want to be in the lab after graduation who are on OPT/F-1 status, should not be in the labs if they have not completed OPT paperwork to update their status.



David Bergsman and Nicole Minkoff, DEI co-chairs, reminded everyone that the DEI committee is a resource for the department and student committees. The DEI committee will support all efforts in DEI, but they *do not* own the activities. In the future, the committee will be spearheading some DEI projects that will be transferred to student DEI committees. More information will follow soon.

The DEI committee is coming up with a strategy for mentorship and guidance that they can pass on to the UG and Grad DEI committees. More detail to come on the student focus with this idea.

### **Discussion of COVID and Winter Quarter teaching**

As a reminder, President Cauce sent an email before the holiday break outlining that until January 28, faculty and students can choose how they want to participate in class; in-person instructional and/or remote learning. All students must have the option to participate remotely.

Jim thanked faculty for all the enormous hard labor and work in planning a certain type of class. He understands the disruptions this is causing and recognizes the challenges.

Labs – prioritizing in-person labs. Jim said Stu and James are doing a great job figuring out lab and capstone projects. ChemE students really want this experience. We know that labs are very important for our students' education, and we are doing everything to make labs move forward. Jim opened the discussion for more comments.

Stu questioned whether students' have a choice to attend remotely and wondered if that applied to lab work. He asked if students get to pick their decision to participate remotely for lab courses.

Jim commented that it's a tricky question. He said that COE has its own interpretation of the president's email. COE wants to know if we are favoring a remote lab, they want to know why and if/how we are meeting the learning objectives. They also did not say that students enrolled in labs are required to be there in-person. This is in contradiction to the president's message. It is unclear. Jim will follow the lead of the individual instructors. Instructors need to be very clear with their students on the expectation. If you are going to require them to come into the lab, you need to tell them that immediately. If you are getting push-back then we should be going to Dan Ratner right away. Labs are very important to students and Jim supports that. Jim says there is a way to figure this out and make it work so everyone is remaining safe. There may be some challenging conversations. Jim will help to spearhead them. Dan Ratner would like to be included immediately if he needs to intervene. Please keep Jim in the loop and cc him on any department emails that go out to students.

Nicole Minkoff commented that students need to be able to self-isolate even if they must miss a lab. Stu confirmed that we need to communicate with students that they don't have to attend every single lab to pass the class.

### **Grad advisor renewal vote for David Beck**

David Beck's graduate faculty status will be expiring soon, and his term needs to be renewed.

Motion made by X and was seconded by Dan Schwarz. The motion passes unanimously. Congrats David.

### **Affiliate faculty P&T vote for Chun-Long Chen & Yi He**

The vote is not taken at the meeting, but an e-ballot will be coming from Andrea

Chun-Long Chen of PNNL and Yi He of Zhejiang University, were both promoted at their home institutions. In order to change titles from Affiliate Associate to Affiliate full Professor, there is a mini-P&T review through COE only.

Jim proposed both promotions and asked the faculty for any concern or comment on the process? No comment.

This is an HR matter and there is no reason for a motion. E-ballot to follow.

### **Undergraduate program presentation on courses and course vote (Nance)**

Elizabeth explained that we are doing this now so we can hit timelines for our course and program proposals and our ABET criteria out to faculty this quarter and next quarter.

The first two items are updates to ABET performance indicator evaluation and language. The UG Program Committee has already reviewed and approved the changes hoping that this will help facilitate making this an easy process for the faculty to decide and vote.

We will do this as a single vote

### **Updates to ABET Performance Indicator**

#1 Move PI 4 which addresses Ethics to ChemE 310.

#2 Refers to the attachment Andrea sent with an agenda. **A)** Rewritten to improve clarity PI 3 (Chem 436 and 437) and **B)** PI 6. Updated language in the PI in the description itself in addition to the rubric.

Jim asked if there was a problem changing this mid-cycle. The answer was no.

Jim will update the External Advisory Board in the spring.

Stu made the motion to approve 3 required changes  
Stephanie seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

**Course proposals** – Getting classes aligned. Classes that have been offered for 10 years as 490's. College was trying to get away from 498, 599 classes running for more than 2 years. This is our process in ChemE to try and clean this up.

Discussion or questions? The motion passes unanimously.

Jim said if there is a spare faculty meeting in April, he will bring a list of classes not taught in 5 years and consider retiring them.

**Solar Energy Conversion** Hugh Hillhouse course (498/499), offered at permanent course code 450 /550 special topic. Popular class and high enrollment. Would continue to be listed as a Grad and UG course.

The motion passes unanimously

**Program proposal** because it will change how we list the requirements. **Quantum Mechanics** taught by Vince Holmberg for 6 years. Max enrollment and courses have high evaluation marks. Turn the class into a real course, move it out of 498 as an alternative option to Chemistry 455. Move out of a 498-course code. This is a starting point. This is an alternative degree and is not a replacement in a ChemE program.

Jim stated a warning came from an ABET reviewer that noted they would not allow this class in a 498 format if they reviewed it again and we needed to adjust. Jim shared that this is a simultaneous action of getting the course listed and doing a 1503 that revises the ChemE program.

Francois provided history in support of ChemE taking the course from Chemistry since they didn't support it or seem interested.

Jim mentioned that Vince substantially revised the syllabus and textbooks. We were hoping to get a letter and preapproval from Chemistry, but that didn't happen. We are moving forward.

Dan added that Jim should be prepared to explain and share data with Munira. This doesn't change any credits. ChemE students are taking this course.

Nance moves that ChemE moves forward Quantum Mechanics for Chemical engineers as ChemE 456. Schwartz seconds. The motion passes unanimously

Revisiting the topic from the all-day faculty meeting on 9/24. Bringing back ChemE 375 **Computer Skills and Programming**

Make 375 a required course. We can either replace the fundamental course requirement OR we have 16, elective 9 unspecified credits. The UG committee recommends using 375 to replace the fundamental programming requirement. Elizabeth checked with Stu and there are no current ABET implications of this change.

Dave Beck has concerns about closing off prerequisite courses CSE 142/143 and CSE160/163. Could 375 be a replacement/pre-req?

Jim thinks unlikely, but we can look at. David said it would allow students to go a little deeper not to have to take CSE 142 or CSE 160 again.

Nicole Minkoff said Dave's question is a good one. She says ChemE 375 wets the appetite of students who were not previously interested.

Jim added that we should keep in mind that we are developing a computer elective to replace Brad's optimization class and Shachi is going to pilot it this spring. This would eventually be ChemE 475

David Beck said we should try and get this class set up as one of the courses that would enable students to take as part of the Data Science minor.

Nance makes a motion to accept the 375 program requirements. The motion passes unanimously

### **Faculty search review and discussion of final candidates (Pfaendtner/DeForest/Nance)**

Discussion, review, and vote of who to invite

Long format interviews, they can choose remote or in person. If in person, they will have an office so they can meet on zoom if needed. No big all faculty lunch with candidates.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30pm

