

Faculty Meeting Minutes (Open session)

March 7, 2022 | 2:30 - 3:30 pm | Benson Hall, Room 109- ZOOM

Attendance:

Meeting start: 2:30 | Adjourn 3:12

Faculty Present (blank=absent)

Department Chair, Jim Pfaendtner - Present

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

Others Present

Debbie Carnes	Dave Drischell	Nicole Minkoff			
Lindsey Doermann	Andrea Gleichweith				

AGENDA

- Approval of minutes from 2/7 faculty meeting
- Announcements/updates
- Review and vote of department Moulton award nominations
- Discussion of HR matters

Approval of minutes from 2/7/22 faculty meeting

Minutes were sent out in advance. There are no suggested corrections or additions. The minutes for the February 7 ChemE Faculty Meeting are approved.

Announcements/updates

Graduate student recruitment: Reminder that grad student recruiting is coming up. In-person visit is 3/18 and virtual visit is 3/28. We are targeting class size of 15-18 students.

Student accolades: ChemE senior Jimmy Ye, part of the interdisciplinary team inSTENT, won the grand prize of \$15,000 in the Foster School's Hollomon Health Innovation Challenge.

Update on UW Finance Transformation: Finance system is going to be updating to Workday. There are many important business reasons to do this, including many inefficiencies and the risk of using legacy systems. Jim wants to start talking now about how our tasks are managed. Some business processes will shift from the unit level to shared services. These will be part of the Collaboration Core, managed by COE with department input. Though we're at least a year out from the transition, Jim and Debbie are already strategizing and advise that it's good to start thinking about now.



Debbie added that the UW is trying to mimic what peer institutions are doing, and some of our work will be shifted to a shared environment. She and fellow administrators have been very involved in thinking about how it will be implemented. They want to try out moving some work to the shared environment before go-live so that the transition is as seamless as possible for the end-user.

The transition affects how we think about our own staffing. Maggie has been promoted to Grants Manager and Nicole D. has retired. We don't need to hire direct replacements because some work is shifting to the Collaboration Core, but we're trying to work out how processes will work now to ease the transition.

Graduate student recruitment: Dave Drischell kindly reminded faculty to respond Cole's request to sign up for visit weekend events. It's important to have faculty attending these events.

Masking policy: Jim said that it's still not known when the masking policy on campus will change, but he anticipates it may not be until after finals week.

Undergraduate program updates: Elizabeth Nance shared that we will be rolling out a new mentoring program for new students in the spring. Nicole Minkoff received a UW SEED grant that will be used to train and pay student mentors (juniors and seniors juniors/seniors representing a range of lived experiences). They'll create content and lead mentoring groups to support students in their first quarter in the program.

We'll also be launching a new 1-credit engineering elective course, "Exploring ChemE Careers" (CHEME 498). It will consist of a series of alumni panels focused on the 6 COE areas of impact, intermixed with professional development workshops (and assignments). Participating alumni will be within 10 years of graduating, and Elizabeth said the alums who've been contacted are very excited about participating. The course is advertised to all current ChemE students (emphasis on sophomores), plus engineering undeclared and community college students. Elizabeth may be reaching out to fellow faculty about moderating a panel.

Jim offered congratulations to Nicole for writing and receiving the seed grant.

Review and vote of department Moulton award nominations

We give 3 alumni awards each year: 2 R. Wells Moulton Distinguished Alumni Awards (industry and academia), and starting last year, an Early Career Impact Award for those who received their terminal degree from UW ChemE within the past 15 years. Last year's winner, Líney Árnadóttir, spoke at the Graduate Student Symposium.

Jim nominated Kirk Nass (PhD '89) for the Moulton industry award. He said Kirk has been engaged in the department, giving seminars and presenting at LSS. Kirk worked as an R&D engineer and manager at Chevron. He holds several granted and pending patents for novel polymeric viscosity modifiers and lubricant additives and has received two company Presidential awards for his contributions. Kirk was a founding Board member of the Chevron Lesbian and Gay Employees

Association (Chevron Pride). Chevron Pride added sexual orientation to its non-discrimination and non-harassment policies, extended domestic partner benefits to all employees, and officially established employee diversity networks.

There were no other nominees for the industry award.

There were no nominees for Moulton academia award. Jim asked if faculty wanted to give an award this year, noting that it is not necessary.

For the Early Career Impact Award, Francois Baneyx nominated Brent Nannenga (PhD '11), who is now an associate professor of chemical engineering at Arizona State University. Following his Ph.D. with FB, Brent joined the Gonen lab at HHMI's Janelia Farm where he invented MicroED, an electron diffraction technique that allows for structural information to be extracted from what was once thought as "junk" protein crystals. Brent won ChemE's DYSS competition in 2014 and joined ASU Chemical Engineering in 2015. He has received an AFOSR Young Investigator award (2017), an NSF CAREER award (2020), the Burton Medal from the Microscopy Society of America (2020), and promotion and tenure in 2021. He was selected as Outstanding Assistant Professor by the Fulton Schools of Engineering in 2018. Francois notes that Prof. Nannenga is a rising star at the intersection of protein engineering and structural biology.

There were no other nominees for the early career award.

Jim asked for further comments, requests to delay voting, or possible other nominations that could be submitted quickly. (There was a deadline of Feb. 27 for nominations.) Jim advocated for deciding on the Moulton industry award so we can invite the recipient to speak at graduation. Slides will be shared for an e-vote. Next year, for the academia award, Jim suggested asking advancement for a list of alumni.

(Discussion of HR matters)

Additional announcement

Shachi Mittal encouraged everyone to endorse ChemE's latest student technology fee (STF) proposal for a new Fourier Transform Infrared Microscope, to be housed in our Shared Instrumentation Facility. The deadline for endorsements is today.

Meeting adjourned at 3:12