

Chemical Engineering Faculty Meeting Minutes (Open session)

April 8, 2019 | 2:30 - 3:30 pm | Benson Hall room 109

Attendance

Meeting start: 2:30 | Adjourn: 3:30

Faculty Present (blank=absent)

Department Chair, Francois Baneyx - Present

Stu Adler	P	James Carothers	P	Brad Holt	P	Elizabeth Nance	P	Buddy Ratner	
Graham Allan	P	David Castner	P	Samson Jenekhe	P	Rene Overney	P	Daniel Schwartz	P
François Baneyx	P	Cole DeForest		Shaoyi Jiang	P	James Pfaendtner	P	Eric Stuve	P
David Beck	E	Hugh Hillhouse		Andy Kim	P	Jonathan Posner		Venkat Subramanian	
John Berg	P	Vincent Holmberg	P	Mary Lidstrom	-	Lilo Pozzo		Qiuming Yu	P

Others Present

Stephanie Ashby	Nicole Minkoff	Dave Drischell			
Lindsey Doermann	Debbie Carnes			Victoria Dahl (WiChE)	

Announcements and new Business – Pfaendtner

- Dan Schwartz, Dave Beck, and Matt Murbach edit new issue of ECS Interface: "ECS in the Era of Data Science"
- Pozzo design students win \$5,000 Clean Energy Prize for ElectroSolar Oxygen project: Gabriel Lozada, Sophia Nguyen, Harrison Sarsito, and Annalisa Ursino
- Hugo Pontes selected to present to US Congress in "Posters on the Hill" sponsored by Council of Undergraduate Research – one winner per state

Safety Moment – Rene Overney

Prof Overney shared photos of a large water puddle in BNS 248 (Autoclave room), where he had noticed a power strip sitting in the water and no label on the door about who to contact in case of similar issues. Building manager Kameraon Harmon corrected the problem on the same day that it was reported. Kameron is working on a list of who is responsible for each shared room.

Admissions Update – Brad Holt

Prof Holt shared spring quarter admission statistics and noted the following:

- Year over year, undergrad applications are down (115 previous year / 82 current year)
- There has been a large drop in community college transfers (40 PY / 15 CY); this is likely related to the new direct to college (DTC) admissions at CoE (11% (8) new transfers)
 - ◆ ChemE has already notified CoE of transfer drops.
 - ◆ If this happens a second year, ChemE is prepared to do Community College outreach
 - ◆ Advisers Dave and Nicole are attending a UW Community College Adviser conference, and will share concerns / gather more info
- Gender and URM diversity remains steady compared to previous years (31% women and 11% URM make up ChemE 310 E)

Lab Coat Laundry Service - Baneyx

Prof. Baneyx asked the faculty: Do we, as a department want to encourage regular laundering of lab coats -or- should individual labs make that decision; who should pay for it (PIs or department); and how often should we do it? He provided the name of a potential vendor, Loopie Laundry, and a price list.

- Prof Baneyx noted that home laundering of chemical-soiled lab coats is a safety issue
- There was general agreement that the department should pay for regular laundry service
- Prof. Baneyx will coordinate with faculty to determine frequency and need for this service

The role of climate in reducing incidence of harassment and discrimination – Pfaendtner

Prof. Pfaendtner shared take-aways from an ADVANCE workshop that he recently attended

- All faculty and staff have specific reporting responsibilities when harassment or discrimination is disclosed
- Jim encouraged all faculty to read the "NASEM report", a study of harassment in STEM
 - 20% of female science students and >25% of female engineering students experienced sexual harassment from faculty or staff
 - A key finding of this study is: Efforts at improving climate such as improving equity and inclusivity, norming appropriate behavior have the effect of "raising the temperature of the water" – that is,

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eliminating more subtle types (bullying, put-downs, mocking, sexual comments) of harassment – (compared to melting a hidden “iceberg” below the surface) vs the “above water” or overt types of harassment (sexual coercion or unwanted sexual attention)

- Most harassment occurs between peers in labs (at UW)
- Faculty should take a leadership role in keeping the discussion going

The meeting adjourned to a closed session to discuss hiring a Lecturer for the 2019-20 academic year