

Faculty Meeting Minutes (Open session)

June 1, 2020 | 2:30 - 3:30 pm | Benson Hall, Room 109- ZOOM

Attendance:

Meeting start: 2:30 | Adjourn 3:19

Faculty Present (blank=absent)

Department Chair, Jim Pfaendtner - Present

Stu Adler	P	James Carothers	P	Brad Holt	P	Elizabeth Nance	P	Eric Stuve
Graham Allan		Chad Curtis	P	Samson Jenekhe	P	Rene Overney		Stephanie Valleau
François Baneyx		Cole DeForest	P	Shaoyi Jiang	P	Lilo Pozzo	P	Qiuming Yu
David Beck	P	Hugh Hillhouse		Mary Lidstrom		Buddy Ratner		Neda Bagheri
John Berg	P	Vince Holmberg	P	Jun Liu	P	Daniel Schwartz	P	Cao Guozhong
Kyle Caldwell	P							Jonathan Posner

Others Present

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

Announcements

Awards

-Professors Hillhouse, Nance, and Pfaendtner are recipients of the College of Engineering 2020 FACET award (Faculty Appreciation for Career Education & Training). Elizabeth Nance and Cole DeForest won this award in 2019. This is the second year this award has existed, and it lets students recognize faculty.

-Trevor Braun in the Schwartz group won the 2020 Early Career Award of the ECS Electrodeposition Division. Dan Schwartz (DS) gave an update that Trevor is now an NRC postdoc at NIST.

-Erica Eggleton, also in Schwartz group, was recognized by CEI as this year's grad fellow service awardee.

External Advisory Board

The Spring External Advisory Board will occur remotely on June 4 for 2 hours. Jim thanked Lindsey Doermann, Andrea Gleichweith and Debbie Carnes for helping prepare for the meeting. Jim will post the slides on the ChemE faculty shared drive. Andy Walker has stepped in as the ChemE EAB chair. Tom Truskett from UT-Austin will be joining the EAB. Retiring members are Linda Broadbelt, Rich Dickinson, and Paul Kenis. Updates will be forthcoming from Jim.

Future dates to remember:

-Faculty Retreat September 25. The format is TBD, but if it is online, it will not be all day. More information to come later.

-Executive Session September 28

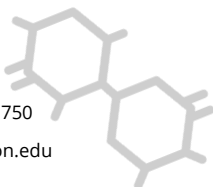
-Faculty Meetings October 12, October 26, November 23, December 7

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Celebration of departing faculty members

Jim recognized and thanked the departing faculty members: Brad Holt, Shaoyi Jiang and Qiuming Yu. Official celebrations will be arranged as soon as they are permitted by WA state.

Lab use

Andrea asked PIs to remind their lab members to use their UW NetID email address as a guest and/or creator for an event in their lab occupancy calendars. Any questions can be sent to Jesse Chiem. Jim reiterated that it is very important to be responsive to this issue.

Graduation update (Elizabeth Nance)

Elizabeth reported that an email from Lindsey was sent out that contained the graduation date and a web site link. Faculty are encouraged to host zoom rooms before and/or after graduation so grads can introduce their families and say hello like they might at live graduation. Suggested times for zoom rooms are: 3-4pm or 5pm – (end time is your call) or both.

Email Nicole Minkoff the time(s) you will host a zoom room and the zoom link you will use.

AIChE junior officers have created animated stickers anyone can use in their graduation screenshots. These will be sent out to students, faculty and staff.

The department virtual graduation is June 12, 4-5pm PDT.

To help make this ceremony meaningful for the students, wear your regalia to the ceremony. Jim will give a brief history of regalia. Faculty attending in regalia will be spotlighted.

Elizabeth Nance will be making a trip to Benson Hall to pick up her regalia and offered to pick up and deliver anyone else's too.

Nicole Minkoff reported that the mailings to graduates are ready to be mailed and thanked all who signed cards.

Jim thanked all the faculty and staff who have helped with graduation.

Stephanie Valleau mentioned that this is her first graduation at UW and asked if all the faculty usually attend the UG ceremony. Jim said faculty are always invited; some always attend, some attend only when they have students graduating.

Upcoming Academic HR Votes

Brad Holt: emeritus faculty status
Qiuming Yu: affiliate faculty status
Shaoyi Jiang: affiliate faculty status

A 3-item ballot will be sent out by Andrea before the end of the academic year. Jim asked for all voting-eligible faculty to respond to the email.

COVID-19 Update

A ChemE working group formed to advise Jim and Debbie on AU 2020 research and academics. The group will advise on decisions that come up over the summer, including budget cuts (the faculty will have input on this and will vote on it) and the approach to AU classes.

Jim will report regularly to the faculty over the summer. Contact him with feedback, questions, and concerns.

Autumn quarter instruction

No classes larger than 50 people will meet in-person. For other classes, there is the option to teach some classes in-person. The working group will try to meet the needs of those teaching classes in person with regard to locations, times and classrooms, but there are many unknowns.

Because students or faculty may be in at risk populations or may need to quarantine, faculty will have the opportunity for remote instruction. All students, even in classes that meet in person, must have the ability for remote participation.

COE is gathering all of the data about class preferences from departments and then sending that info to the university. Department will prioritize classes as 1) Prefer online, 2) prefer in-person, or 3) prefer in-person but OK to meet online.

In response to this, the top priority for in-person instruction this fall quarter are undergraduate lab classes. 436 and 455 labs will be prioritized to meet in-person. Chad Curtis and Kyle Caldwell are working on this and preparing.

All graduate classes since they are fewer than 50 people will be given the option for prioritizing in-person instruction. Faculty will decide what their preference is and the department will work with them to accommodate if feasible.

Faculty for core UG classes are being approached about their preferences. Elective classes will be listed as "prefer online". If you are teaching an elective and feel strongly that you want to do in person instruction, reach out to Jim and Dave Drischell asap.

Lilo Pozzo asked how to handle a situation where a student prefers online instruction, but the class meets in person. Jim advised that you design around online instruction, but at a minimum you can record the lectures and post them asynchronously. The student should be able to submit documents online. Chad and Kyle are planning for these situations and will report back at the faculty retreat in September.

Stu Adler asked about classroom prioritization from the COE's perspective. Jim advised that if there is enough classroom capacity then all who want to teach in person should be able to. If space is constrained, classes will have to be prioritized. Department will have to make decisions with the working group. Decisions about classrooms may not be made until August.

A follow-up question from Stu. For online instruction, is UW flexible about scheduling? Is there the possibility that the instructor and students can arrange times to meet, either in small groups or with TAs? Can these decisions be made by the instructor, or will UW decide? Jim advised that with asynchronous instruction, it probably could be scheduled to meet educational goals as long as the schedule is reasonable (for example it meets at the same time each week and accommodates the rest of the students' class schedules). The syllabus will need to define expectations about meeting times.

Dan Schwartz asked for clarification about classroom size. Will a class of 50 students need to meet in a much larger classroom to accommodate social distancing? Jim replied that this is what they have been told. But that could change.

Jim asked Dave Drischell to follow up with Dan Ratner (COE) about classrooms, scheduling, and prioritization.

Return to labs update

ChemE was recognized by COE for being organized and ready to help people open labs. Jim thanked Mary Lidstrom for helping with this.

Some critical employees are working in Benson Hall. Some labs where approved research is taking place are operating during Stay Home, Stay Healthy Phase 1. Jim thanked Kyle again for helping get the SIF lab open and operating.

For anyone who wants to get their lab open, Jim advised that the department is ready to help.

What to expect this summer

UW will follow state and county guidelines for reopening.

The provost will decide this summer how faculty hiring will proceed. The dean is committed to prioritizing Chem E for faculty hiring for next year, but a decision will be made later, likely in August. The department will determine priorities. Jim said that because the number of open positions will be smaller next year, it would be smart to have an open approach to go after candidates who normally the department might not be able to recruit. Depending on what the dean decides about cluster hiring, there may be some additional focus areas that are opportunities.

Jim recognized that the department is doing a great job ramping up research and encouraged all to continue the great work.

Beyond COVID-19

Send ideas for next year to Jim. Things to focus on, or ways the department can better execute its mission.

Discussions about generating revenue will take place. The existing business model is unsustainable for how startups are done. Jim will be in discussions with the Dean about this and what the future hiring plan for ChemE is. What can the department count on for per hire contributions from the COE?

Dan Schwartz will be chairing an ad hoc workload committee next year. The workload model was voted on by the faculty 5 years ago. Now there are other things to do to continue to improve it, and to be more streamlined in research and improve the way faculty who have bigger research programs are supported. Jim thanked Dan for chairing the committee.

Jim thanked everyone for their efforts during this hard time.

Floor is opened for questions

Lilo Pozzo asked about graduate recruiting. How will it be managed if the situation is like this in fall quarter? How will next year look if people are reluctant to move? Jim said he expects an increase in applications due to less employment. The Grad Committee is thinking about this and will immediately begin addressing contingency planning when they meet in the fall quarter. Lilo suggested conferring with existing students to get their perspective and ideas.

Jim commented that the committees will have charge letters in the Autumn that are tailored to what is happening at that time. Some committees like the grad committee may have more work than others and maybe people will shift from their current committee assignments to help.

Dave Beck thanked Jim for his leadership during this time and recognized it wasn't what he signed up for. This was echoed by others on the call.

Jim will be in Benson occasionally over the summer.

Jim asked all to unmute their microphones for one last round of applause for Brad, Shaoyi and Qiuming.

Jim concluded the last faculty meeting of the year.