

ACADEMIC PLANNING COUNCIL

November 6, 2017

3:00 p.m. Altgeld 315

Minutes

Present: Abdel-Motaleb, Blazey, Chitwood, Cripe, Falkoff, Gordon, Isabel, McCord, Mogren, Reynolds, Torres, Wilkens, and Winkler

Meeting called to order at 3:03 p.m.

1. Announcements

- No announcements

2. Approval of Minutes

- First motion made by Ibrahim Abdel-Motaleb
- Second motion made by Jeanne Isabel
- Motion approved

3. Discussion of subcommittee report:

Judith Chitwood gave an overview of Subcommittee A report:

- **B.S. and M.S. in Industrial and Systems Engineering**
 - Faculty are productive with 88 journal publications and over \$6.5 million in grants.
 - Strength as a department is notable.
 - Enrollment is steadily growing in both the B.S. and M.S. programs.
 - High student demand for the programs offered.
 - The department does a good job of matching students with internship opportunities.
 - The hope for the program is to hire more faculty.
 - Recommendations
 - Program feels it has the resources to sustain growth. Evaluate space issues to accommodate growing programs.
 - Teaching loads are high
 - Work on Ph.D. in Industrial and Systems Engineering to generate more revenue and provide research and research funding. Also,

provides teaching opportunities to alleviate faculty loads as M.S. students do not serve in teaching capacities.

- Continue to pursue relationships with industries for internships and projects thereby, deepening and broadening research opportunities.
 - Work on seeking funds to develop more electives in online form for engineering management specialization.
 - Per discussion, it is a hands-on program therefore online would not be very beneficial but maybe have a virtual desktop, so students can work on projects remotely.
- **B.S. in Industrial and Systems Engineering**
 - B.S. program is third largest in Illinois. Credit hour production has increased nearly 38% from Fiscal Year 2011 to Fiscal Year 2015.
 - Working diligently to recruit female students by going to middle schools and summer camps.
 - Recommendations
 - Continue to focus on recruiting strong students, especially women and means to retain and improve weaker students.
 - Continue outreach efforts and opportunities.
 - Work on collecting more detailed student placement data for longer term tracking.
- **M.S. in Industrial and Systems Engineering**
 - Largest program in Illinois. Credit hour production has increased nearly 50% from Fiscal Year 2011 to Fiscal Year 2015.
 - Retention and graduate rates are strong.
 - Master's is important because of the complexities you do not get at the Bachelor's level. Plus, Master's graduates receive higher salaries.
 - Graduates appear well prepared for the job market with median annual salary of \$80,000.
 - Are most of the Master's students coming from NIU or other schools?
 - A lot are coming from India but mostly students are coming from NIU undergraduate program.
 - Recommendations
 - Do an analysis of other schools with M.S. programs in Industrial and Systems Engineering. See what best practices there are in terms of program funding that can be adopted here.
 - Engineering is currently making industry wide changes.
 - Master's degree is needed to address the industry's complexities above the undergraduate level. Continue to feed B.S. students into M.S. program.
 - Continue to explore opportunities for online courses.

4. Other business

- No other business

Meeting adjourned at 3:23 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,
Mickey Rodriguez and Crystal Doyle