

J. Crayton Pruitt Family Department of Biomedical Engineering Faculty Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, November 18, 2020
3:00 p.m.

Faculty Present (20): Rashidi, Schmidt, Keselowsky, Sharma, Stabler, Ferries, Phelps, Fuller, Huddala, Nicholas, Dobson, Otto, Allen, Williams, Mansy, Ding, Fang, Furtney, Bolch.

1. Call to Order – assign note taker –

Parisa

2. Guest – NONE

3. Approval of Agenda and Minutes –

Christine - October 7, 2020 minutes were emailed in advance. Minutes were approved unanimously.

4. Important Dates to Note (mark your calendars!)

Christine - Faculty members were encouraged to participate in upcoming BME events.

- November 20 – Pruitt Research Day
- November 30 – Seminar, Dr. Eun Ji Chung
- December 7 – Leadership Seminar, Dr. Jennifer H. Elisseeff
- December 11 – BME Holiday Party

5. Discussion Items

5.1. Safety (Jon)

Jon - Student organizations' mentors should first contact the safety committee to ensure compliance with the guidelines before organizing any events. Jon will provide updates on safety precautions regarding face-to-face classes next time. COVID safety guidelines were reviewed.

5.2. Diversity and Inclusion (Ayse)

Christine and Sarah provided updates. The IDEA committee meeting was discussed, as well as a potential 2021 mentoring academy program.

5.3. Teaching Minute (Kevin)

Teaching minutes were presented on the Cellular engineering Lab course (BME 3323L) by Sarah. The biomedical instrumentation course (BME4503) was introduced via a recorded video by Ayse.

5.4. Items Requiring Action

5.4.1. Faculty Vote – requests for affiliate faculty status without Graduate Faculty status. CVs and request packets emailed in advance. (Cherie)

The executive committee had unanimously recommended both to be presented at the faculty meeting. Cherie presented the affiliated faculty applications to be voted.

- Shreya Saxena, (sponsored by Nichols) *approved unanimously*

- Stephen Coombes (sponsored by Ferris) *approved unanimously*

5.4.2. Faculty Vote – BME Graduate Studies Committee (Ben)

- GRE requirement for the PhD program

The rationale for this change was discussed in terms of program competitiveness, the financial impact on students, disparity, and equitability issues. Evaluating international students might be more difficult without a GRE score due to a lack of standardized evaluation. The recommendation was to take a full vote of the faculty to change the GRE requirement for PhD students via Qualtrics.

5.5. Awards Committee Update (Kyle)

Kyle – nomination for departmental awards can still be submitted.

5.6. Seminar Committee Update (Ed)

Ed – provided an update on the seminar series and upcoming talks.

5.7. Research Committee (Dan)

- Pruitt Research Day update

Dan – mentioned that Pruitt research day is on Friday and provided an overview of the full schedule. Attendance was encouraged, especially during the poster session.

5.8. Department and COE Updates and Discussion Items (Christine)

- *If faculty need to access N95 masks for teaching or COVID/patient research activities, they can contact James Fleetwood.*
- *Faculty who have research projects related to the AI initiative should send a brief description to Candy to be included in the next CrossLink issue.*

5.9. Student Org Updates (All)

- *Jen - ASB chapter has been working with the college regarding k-12 outreach activities.*
- *Lakeisha – GSC will have a professional development meeting, where the faculty input survey on presentation will be discussed.*
- *Kyle – BMES org looking for ideas to organize micro-conferences to further engage students (biomaterial day was suggested as a model).*
- *Greg - SFB nothing to report.*
- *Eric - GRiP nothing to report*

6. New Items (all)

7. Adjourn

Committees Not Reporting: Tenure & Promotion Committee (Jon); UG Studies Committee (Lee); Faculty Search Committee (Greg)