

**Academy of Electrical and Computer Engineering (AECE)**  
**Minutes of Annual Business Meeting**  
**April 8, 2005**

Attendees:

Lloyd Brunkhorst	Jim Eckhoff	Richard Eimer	Kelvin Erickson
Thomas Herrick	Leonard Laskowski	Dennis Letterman	James Leonard
Del Mank	Sandra Martin	George McPherson	Jack Morris
Charles Naslund	Walter Reed	Larry Rushing	George Schindler
Donald Shaw	David Sizemore	Keith Stanek	Jack Stewart
Paul Stigall	Robert Strain	George Tomazi	Julie Turley
Tom Van Doren	Roger Volk	Tom Voss	Ron Willoughby
Don Willyard			

The annual Meeting of the Academy of Electrical and Computer Engineering was held Friday, April 8, 2005 at 8:15 a.m. in the Faculty Lounge located at Emerson Electric Company Hall. President **Ron Willoughby** chaired the meeting.

Department Chair, **Dr. Kelvin Erickson**, welcomed the Academy members. Dr. Erickson reported that the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department will need to raise all the funds for the new building addition that is in the planning stages. The department expects no monies from the state due to budget cuts.

**Dr. Erickson** thanked IEEE and Jim Leonard for the two checks received to help support the Retention Rate Task Force. The goal is to evaluate the retention rate of graduates ending up with US job and coming up with ways to increase the retention rate. Dr. Stanek chairs the committee. Other committee members are Robert Wilson, Rich Eimer and Del Mank. Dr. Stanek reported one task force meeting had been held with more planned.

**Dr. Keith Stanek** reported on the new chancellor for Rolla, Dr. John F. Carney. Dr. Stanek was on the search committee for the new chancellor. The search process was a “closed search”. The closed search was recommended instead of an “open search” to draw more qualified candidates.

**Ron Willoughby** read a thank you note from Dr. Thomas to the Academy. Dr. Thomas was in the hospital and the Academy sent a get well card.

**Dr. Kurt Kosbar** reported on the Academy scholarships. The Academy awarded \$2,000 each to five recipients. Dr. Kosbar reminded the Academy of the critiquing process to pick scholarship recipients.

**Rommel Crasta** was awarded a \$2,000 scholarship. Rommel was always fascinated by the concept of wireless communications. He developed an interest in computers at the age of 10. Rommel understands the importance of digital signal processing in

communications. He would like to combine an interest in music with signal processing to enter the field of sound processing and speaker technologies. His plan is to work towards a master's degree in Electrical Engineering focusing on acoustics and signal processing.

**Julie Turley**, Director of Major Gifts, fundraising initiatives, campaign progress and Project 2010 for the UMR campus, talked in depth on the new endowment scholarship opportunity that the State has agreed to match if UMR raises a \$750K goal. UMR has raised \$670K toward this goal. This would give UMR 50 scholarship blocks at \$15,000 that would be matched by the State. Our department has the chance to secure 3 scholarship blocks at \$15,000 that the State would match. Julie also talked about our department's role in Project 2010 which is a department- or program –centered plan. See attachment for details.

**Richard Milburn** was awarded a \$2,000 scholarship. Richard always took things apart and built things for fun. He has a love for mathematics and wants to know how everything works especially electronics. Richard has worked with the General Electric Lighting Division on a co-op. He is currently seeking a full time position and would like to move into a position where he can have a leadership role. Richard would like to go to graduate school either in business or EE.

**Dr. Erickson** reported that the department has 421 undergraduate students (137 CpE and 284 EE). There are 126 graduate students (30 CpE and 96 EE). The department has 31 faculty, 3 lecturers and 16 staff. The department research is down due to three faculty who left and took research with them. Dr. Moss and Dr. Sarangapani have been very active in research recently. The department looks for the research to expand this year. The Power Group and EMC Group are our two strongest research areas. Dr. Mehdi Ferdowsi and Dr. Keith Corzine joined our department in the power area. Dr. Sahra SedighSarvestani joined the department as a lecturer in computer engineering. She has now earned her Ph.D. Dr. SedighSarvestani is shared between computer engineering and information technology. Dr. Steven Grant has joined our department as the Wilkens Telecommunications Professor.

**Phillip Moore** was awarded a \$2,000 scholarship. Phillip is studying computer engineering. He loved to take computers apart and put them back together as a child. Phillip is interested in hardware and artificial intelligence. He wants to work toward a master's degree hopefully at UMR and then continue to obtain his doctorate. Phillip would like a job that would use his skills in computer engineering, math, research and programming.

**Matthew Gann** was awarded a \$2,000 scholarship. Matthew's father was an electronics hobbyist. Watching his father sparked his interest. Matthew is pursuing a dual major in EE and CpE. Matthew would like to continue his education and work toward a master's degree in computer engineering. He might like to work for either Lockheed Martin or Boeing. He might consider becoming a professor as Matthew loves working with people and enjoys research.

**Kevin Moss** was awarded a \$2,000 scholarship. Kevin is married and looking forward to having children after graduation. Kevin likes to discover how things work and likes using science and technology to solve practical problems. He enrolled in CpE, but changed to EE after discovering he liked circuit's analysis. Kevin wants to work as an electrical engineer after graduation. He always would like to work toward a master's degree.

Academy President **Ron Willoughby** opened the afternoon business meeting.

Ron Willoughby introduced **Dr. Kelvin Erickson** and **Dr. Jack Morris** as the **new inductees** and welcomed them into the Academy.

David Sizemore made a motion to approve the minutes of April 16, 2004. Larry Rushing seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Charles Naslund**, Chair for the Membership Committee, welcomed Dr. Kelvin Erickson and Dr. Jack Morris into the Academy. Ann Whitty was nominated for membership this year and had to decline due to work related duties. Ann would like to be considered next year.

The nomination form will be sent in the meetings packet to the members to save postage and time.

Charles Naslund will step down from the Membership Committee and **Thomas Voss** will be the new Chairperson. Thanks to Charles for his work.

**Dr. Thomas Van Doren**, Secretary/Treasurer, presented the expense report for March 1, 2004 thru February 28, 2005. Leonard Laskowski made a motion to approve the expense report for March 1, 2004 thru February 28, 2005. Dr. Keith Stanek seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Dr. Van Doren discussed the possibility that the Academy sponsor an endowment to buy equipment for the department labs. Roger Voss thought that using some of the Academy monies to help purchase new equipment for the department labs was a good idea. Discussion followed.

Dr. Van Doren reported on the new AECE endowment scholarship that the Academy is trying to establish. This endowment will be matched by the State. For every increment of \$15,000 raised by our Academy members, the State will match \$15,000. Presently, the Academy has only raised \$550 toward this goal.

Dr. Van Doren gifted \$10,000 to establish an endowment in the name of the Academy. Dr. Van Doren will gift this \$10,000 toward the matched State endowment if the Academy will raise the remainder of the monies. This transfer of funds is possible

because the paper work had not been completed for Dr. Van Doren's personal endowment.

Dr. Van Doren also proposed that the Academy transfer \$3,000 from its established account to be placed in the new AECE Endowment Scholarship. The Academy could receive a "bigger bang for their buck". Discussion followed.

Don Shaw made a motion to combine the two Academy sponsored endowments (\$3,000 from the Academy scholarship funds and \$10,000 from Dr. Van Doren's personal endowment) into one endowed scholarship that would administered by the Office of Student Financial Assistance. James Leonard seconded the motion. Motion carried.

After the motion was carried, Dr. Van Doren proposed going for the \$30,000 mark to raise a total of \$60,000 toward the new AECE endowment scholarship. Various members were asked to make phone calls to help raise these monies.

Dennis Leitterman made a motion to approve the proposed budget for the 2005-2006 fiscal year. George Schindler seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Dr. Waleed Al-Assadi** gave a presentation to the Academy. Dr. Al-Assadi joined the department in fall, 2003 as a computer engineering faculty. Dr. Al-Assadi came from industry. He talked about his background and his reason for returning to a university to teach and perform research. Dr. Al-Assadi would like to see a VSLI lab in our department.

**Del Mank**, Chair for the Nominations Committee, reported on the new officer positions. Dr. Tom Van Doren asked to be released from his duties for medical reasons and a replacement be found. Walter Reed accepted the nomination

George Schindler made a motion to elect **Walter Reed** as Vice-President for a 2-year term. Leonard Laskowski seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Don Willyard made a motion to elect **Richard Eimer** as Secretary/Treasurer for a 2-year term. Roger Volk seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Don Willyard made a motion to elect **Don Shaw** as President for a 2-year term. Richard Eimer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

George Schindler made a motion to elect **Leonard Laskowski** and **George Tomazi** to the Board of Directors to serve to 2008. Don Shaw seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Del Mank** has agreed to continue chairing the Nominations Committee. **Thomas Voss** will Chair the Membership Committee.

**Don Shaw** reported on the Strategic Vision Document. He talked about the President's forum, the Chancellor's Report and the Toomey Building.

Academy members gave Dr. Erickson feedback on the needs of the industry. Discussion followed on the number of foreign grad students and foreign faculty and the need to help promote more US graduate students and faculty. Discussion followed on a new building addition which is in the planning stage. Questions were asked about what would be housed in the new addition and who will pay for maintenance for the new addition in light of budget cuts. George Tomazi volunteered to help Dr. Erickson in the planning of the new addition.

George Tomazi made a motion to adjourn. George Schindler seconded the motion. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned by Ron Willoughby at 3:55 pm.

**The next Board Meeting and Banquet of the Academy of Electrical and Computer Engineering will be Thursday, April 20, 2006. Please note the change for the day of the week. Mark your calendars and plan to attend.**

Minutes submitted by Dr. Thomas Van Doren

May 9, 2006