The annual meeting of the Academy of Electrical Engineering was held on Friday, April 16, 1999 at 9:00 A.M., in the Academy of Electrical Engineering Conference Room of the Emerson Electric Co. Hall (EECH). President Jim Eckhoff chaired the meeting.

Department Chairman, Dr. E. Keith Stanek, gave an overview of the Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering. The department is now called Electrical & Computer Engineering (ECE) to better reflect the degrees offered. There is lots of competition in securing computer engineering faculty. Many universities are making the same curriculum change and need the same staff. Computer Engineering ranked 7th out of 27 degree programs in terms of applications for admission on campus and was “only a hair” out of 4th place. Computer Engineering applications are over 100 for the fall of ’99. This compares with 2 for the fall of ’98, and 23 for the spring of ’99. This shows excellent growth and is an indication of a successful program. For the ECE Department, 70% of the graduate students are international (almost all from India and China). There is 10% international in the undergraduate program. A problem is retaining US
undergraduates for the graduate program. The Introduction to Engineering course is responsible for attracting 25% of new freshmen. In 1998, ECE research projects totaled $2.7M ... tops in the School of Engineering. Highest next priorities: Scholarships and laboratory equipment.

Kurt Kosbar, faculty representative in charge of scholarships gave an update of the present scholarship procedures. Neil Amiri, Kenton Williston, and Virgil Zetterlind III, '99 scholarship recipients, gave brief presentations outlining how the scholarships have benefited them. All were well done.

The morning session adjourned at 12:00 for lunch.

Combined Board of Directors and Business Meeting

The afternoon session convened at 1:00 p.m. Harold Vannoy, membership chair, introduced the six '99 inductees. The '99 inductees present were Robert Dockey, Richard Eimer, Charles Gross, Nicola Nelson, George Schindler, and Walter Smith.

Motion: That the '98 AEE meeting minutes be approved
Motion was seconded and approved by all

Motion: To accept 99/00 budget and to transfer the chairman's fund to the scholarship fund.
Motion was seconded and approved by all.

Connie Eggert gave an update on the status of the AEE Conference Room as of April 1, 1998.

$40,000.00 Conference Room Fund Goal (96 Academy Members)
27,958.33 Contributions received (43 Members)
9,475.00 Company Matching Gifts received (10 Company Gifts)
1,350.00 Additional Pledges Outstanding
($1,216.67) Shortfall

Motion: To elect new officer.
Ron Willoughby to replace Don Willyard as Secretary/Treasurer.
[Don Willyard to become the new Vice-President, replacing Mike Apprill]
[Mike Apprill to become the new President, replacing Jim Eckhoff]
Motion was seconded and approved by all.
Motion: To elect new board members.
Don Shaw to replace Paul Stigall.
Rick Arnold to replace Roger Volk.
[Jim Eckhoff as immediate past president]
Motion was seconded and approved by all.

Motion: To adjourn at 4:30
Motion was seconded and approved by all.

The purpose of the EE Academy is not clearly stated for new Academy members. Functionally, the Academy is to be the Advisory Board to the ECE Department Chairman. For the Academy member, there are three main purposes: 1) Recognition of professional accomplishments. 2) Return (share) a portion of financial wealth made possible by a strong start at UMR. 3) Return a portion of personal time in support of UMR.

Action Item: The Board will draft a “statement of purpose” for Academy member approval.

Action Item: The By-Law Committee will review the by-laws for possible name change to accommodate the change from EE to ECE in the department’s name.

The need for several ad-hoc (temporary) committees was identified; e.g., senior design, senior seminars, scholarship, recruiting.

Action Item: Keith Stanek and Mike Apprill will develop plan.

Highlights of the afternoon feedback session to Dr. Stanek follow: 1) It would be helpful if a few Academy members could attend one high school senior reception per year. 2) Need to improve Web site presentation. 3) Recommend improving printed promotional materials. “Slick” brochures needed. 4) Recommend CD ROM that focuses on the unique offerings from UMR. 5) If possible, donate frequent flier miles to the ECE Department to allow faculty to expand high school recruiting targets. 6) Recommend meeting with high school counselors, math teachers, and science teachers in recruiting efforts. 7) Recommend local TV spot ads on cable stations like ESPN. Connie Eggert volunteered to assist with promotional efforts.

Minutes approved by

[Signature]

Date 6-9-99