AIC Meeting Minutes

April 8, 2011 12:00 – 4:49 PM, Vine Annex

Members Attending: Kathy Chavez, Mo Ehsani, Alan Forrest, Joe Gervasio, Therese Lane, Kevin Lansey, Scott Larson, Mick Mathieu, Thomas McGovern, Ann Moynihan, Edward Nowatzki, Dean Papajohn, David Zaleski, Lianyang Zhang – Others attending: Tadd Johnson, Anna Naumovitz, Monica Soto, Shelby Madrid, Marcus Miller

Members Who Sent Regrets: David Areghini, Eric Froberg, David Glidersleeve, Kevin Josker, Juan Lopez, Dave Mahaffy, George Maseeh, Travis McCarthy, Bill Nelson (new), Stan Turney, Mark Woodson, Benny Young

Absent: Robert Barksdale, Michael Barton, Jerry Cannon (new), Seth Chalmers, James Davey, Tom Draeger, John Evans, Charles Gajda, James Glock, Chris Grubbs (new), Thomas McLean, Farhad Moghimi, William Palmer, Nancy Patania Brown, Claudia Perchinelli, Robert Rasmussen, Robin West, Robert Wortman, Ken Wright

No Longer Able To Serve: Frank Castro, Subhash Raval, Blaine Reely, and David Turner

Introductions and Presentations

∙ Kathy Chavez called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM and all members introduced themselves. New members in attendance were Ann Moynihan and Dean Papajohn.

SCE Update, Tadd Johnson:

∙ The priorities of the club are to position the club in such a way so that it is duplicable, strategize ways to go from a negative balance at the beginning of the year to a positive balance at the end for the next year’s board and to make sure the club did well at the PSWC conference.

Club activities are club to club interactions, volunteering, site tours, conference sports and the Leadership Conference. SCE’s major fund raising events this year were the Monte Carlo Night, Career Night, and Golf Tournament. With these events and careful budgeting they will be able to hand over a positive balance of $6,000 to the next year’s board.

38 Students attended the ASCE conference at the California State University LA in March 2011. They participated in the concrete canoe, steel bridge, dog house, geotech, surveying, balsa bridge and flag design events. Problems started early on with the canoe project. The canoe captain quit a week before the tech papers were due and then the canoe cracked when it came off the mold. The students patched the canoe with fiberglass so the break was undetectable but let the judges know what they had done. They were disqualified, but won an award for Engineering Ethics & Honesty because they were upfront about what they had done. In the steel bridge competition, they won 9th overall, 6th for lightness and efficiency and 4th for display. They won Best Aesthetics in the Balsa Bridge competition, 2nd place in the Surveying competition, 2nd for the Dog House as well as Best Craftsmanship, 5th in the Can Design, 8th in Geotech, and 5th in the Flag Design. Overall, they placed in the top 10 of 15 events. Sam Credio, Brent Borchers and Dr. Kundu were very helpful to the club in preparing for the conference.
Involvement and outreach are important to the club. The provide opportunities for involvement in SCE, support the UA Civil Engineering & Engineering Mechanics Department educational curriculum and retain alumni involvement. They are involved in the high schools with Math Counts and give presentations for the middle schools presenting the highlights of SCE. The attend Engineering student recruitment events, volunteer for highway clean-ups, attend technical tours and serve as Engineering Ambassadors.

The new members were introduced as Anna Naumovitz (next year’s President), Monica Soto (next year’s Internal V.P.), Marcus Miller (next year’s External V.P.) and Shelby Madrid (next year’s Conference Coordinator).

Discussion ensued. The SCE members were advised to invite other companies in addition to engineering firms to sponsor the conference to be held at the UA in 4 years. Sponsors of athletic events may also be interested such as health bar companies. The students were encouraged to join Linked-in and ask their members to join also.

Department Head Update, Kevin Lansey:

Dr. Lansey gave an update on the status of the department. Please see attached PowerPoint presentation.

Handouts included the agenda, minutes from September’s meeting, 2010 homecoming donations and expenses, CEEM proposal of things the Department needs, (those marked have been donated by an anonymous source), current Mohr’s Circle list, ABET letter and department response, proposed changes to the Bylaws, construction course outline, and Dr. Lansey’s PowerPoint slides.

Discussion followed. AIC agreed unanimously that the Delbert Lewis Distinguished Professor award should go to a current CEEM faculty member and not be saved for a new faculty member.

Dr. Zhang Presentation:

Dr. Zhang’s research areas are centered on sustainability consist of are deep (pile) foundations, compressed air energy storage, rock mechanics and rock engineering and construction material from wastes. Dr. Zhang’s presentation centered on the last area. He discussed the benefits of using mine tailings/fly ash with geopolymerization technology instead of ordinary Portland Cement. The new product would be friendly to the environment, and is a stronger product.

Discussion followed.

To-Do Items:

Scott Larson will gather alumni to help sponsor groups for survey.

AIC members to suggest contacts for Dr. Lansey to go to lunch with to recruit as AIC or donors.

AIC members to nominate people for Outstanding Your Alumni Award, Centennial Professor Award, and Distinguished Alumni Award. Packets due by June 1, 2011.

Bylaws committee will meet to look at bylaws, and formulate and communicate position on changes to the AIC.
Ann Moynihan will get with Dr. Lansey to talk about the possibility of the Department earning extra income through Pima County outreach by hosting classes at the UA. There is the possibility of the Department making $36,000 to $48,000 per year minus expenses.

Contacts for field trips and SCE help:

Bruce Wright – UA Tech Park
Alan Forrest – SCE help and field trips
Scott Larson – Solar Project
Bill Nelson – New bus depot
Dave Zaleski – Modern street car and I-10 widening project

Homecoming committee will meet to discuss and finalize details of homecoming and funding source.

CEEM will look into giving online Ethics classes to bring in tuition and give professional credit. 4 units are needed in several states for professionals.

CEEM will send an electronic copy of the ABET response to AIC.

CEEM will add another question to the alumni surveys asking how long they have been in the work force. Some grads do not get jobs right out of college.

CEEM to give AIC the sample sizes of the three categories of alumni sampled.

AIC will give % rates they want to see CEEM strive for.

CEEM will better publicize the guest lecturers as outreach so that industry members can attend.

CEEM will look into a Share Point Site for AIC communications to include meeting minutes, membership lists, Bylaws, upcoming speakers, events, and calendar.

CEEM will acknowledge GLHN’s contributions to the Department in the Civil View.

CEEM will put past Centennial Awardees on the Web.

CEEM will include these topics of discussion for the next meeting:

Explore additional sources of revenue
How to market the Department

Therese Lane will get a two year homecoming events budget to the AIC homecoming committee (Dave Zaleski, Scott Larson and Ann Moynihan).
AIC Bookkeeping

Suggestions were made for changes to the Bylaws. A committee was formed to look at these and make recommendations to the AIC. Bylaws Committee is Mick Mathieu, Kathy Chavez and Dave Zaleski.

Kathy Chavez stated that her term as Chair has come to an end. She stated that even though he couldn’t make it to today’s meeting, Mark Woodson volunteered to run for Vice-Chair. Motion was made by Mick Mathieu to nominate Mark Woodson as Co-Chair, and Dave Zaleski to stay as Secretary/Treasurer. This was seconded by Alan Forrest and was unanimous. Scott Larson will move to Chair for the meeting in the Fall.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the last meeting (9/10/10) and the motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Lansey presented Kathy with a clock to thank her for her work as Chair of the AIC.

Next AIC Meeting:

Next meeting date: Friday September 16, 2011 at noon, with a light buffet lunch beginning at 11:30.

Meeting Adjourned:

The meeting was adjourned at 4:49 p.m. All were invited to attend the WISE (Women In Science and Engineering) picnic in Himmel Park following the meeting.