

MINUTES OF THE
CIVIL ENGINEERING ACADEMY
April 8, 2006

Present: Lauren D. Garduño, Civil Engineering Academy Chair, Jayaraman Sivakumar, R. Panneer Selvam, Burton Clifton, Jim Brewer, Rick Horn, Bernie Gradel, Jr., Bruce Kromer, Travis Waldrip, Alan Greer, Brian Shcrader, Tom Zachman, Greg Soules, Tony Childress, Vinu Abraham, H. Scott Norville, Civil Engineering Department Chair, and Debbie Starcher, Civil Engineering Department Supervisor.

Call to Order

The nineteenth annual meeting of the Civil Engineering Academy convened Saturday, April 8, 2006. Lauren Garduño, chair, called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

Introductions

Lauren opened the meeting and welcomed members, new inductees and guests.

One new faculty member has been added to the CE Department. Lauren requested Dr. Charles Newhouse share information about himself and report on his responsibilities in the department. Dr. Newhouse began work at Texas Tech September 1, 2005. Prior to that, he worked for approximately nine years with architectural engineering firms doing structural engineering and consulting. Dr. Newhouse decided to return to school. He graduated in August 2005 from Virginia Tech. He is currently teaching principals of design and concrete design, the latter of which is closely related to his area of interest.

Lauren then welcomed the following new inductees into the Academy:

- Alan Greer – Regional VP of Freese and Nichols
- Bruce Kromer – Tank Builders, Inc.
- Brian Schrader – Project Sr. Director, VertexRSI Antenna Products, General Dynamics C4 Systems SATCOM Technologies Division
- Jayaraman (Siva) Sivakumar – Analysis Engineer, General Motors Powertrain

Four students representing the Civil Engineering student organizations were present. Lauren requested they introduce themselves and share information about current activities in the organizations.

ASCE – Amanda Felderhoff, President, Ray Silva-Reyes, Vice President, and Nancy Gerrish

Chi Epsilon – Thomas White, Vice President

TSPE - Amanada Felderhoff and Nancy Gerrish

Approval of the Minutes

The 2005 minutes were distributed to the Academy. After time was given for review, Tony Childress asked for any comments. No comments were given. Lauren asked for a motion to approve the April 2, 2005, minutes as written. Greg Soules moved to approve the minutes as written. Tom Zachman seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Tony Childress, Treasurer, presented the Fiscal Year 2004 Treasurer's Report.

Balances in the respective accounts are:

Civil Engineering Academy – \$10,648

Civil Engineering Academy Scholarship Endowment – \$109,661

Civil Engineering Academy Scholarship Interest – \$9,241

Four \$1000 scholarships and one \$750 scholarship were awarded to civil engineering students from the CE Academy Scholarship Interest account in FY 2005.

Tony asked for any questions or discussion. There being no discussion, Greg Soules moved that the Treasurer's Report be accepted as presented. Bernie Gradel seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

CE Scholarship Endowment Update – Tom Zachman

For the benefit of the new Academy members, Tom explained the goal of the Academy is to increase the Academy Scholarship Endowment by a significant amount in order to generate more interest. Tom worked together with Greg Soules and set a three year goal to raise the Endowment to \$250,000. A letter was mailed out in 2004 soliciting a contribution for 2004 and pledges for 2005 and 2006. To date this has generated a balance of \$109,661. After discussion by the Academy members present, Tom will be sending out a letter in early summer and a follow-up letter in late fall encouraging those who pledged to honor their pledge and to encourage those who have not contributed to consider doing so.

Chairman's Report – Scott Norville

Highlights of the Chairman's report are:

*State of the Department

*Student Information

Undergraduate program: 477

Graduate program: 78

Departmental Scholarships

\$27,875 to undergraduate students

\$24,500 to graduate students

Degrees Awarded (December 2005, August 2005, May 2005)

Bachelor of Science: 60

Master of Science: 22

Ph.D.: 1

FE – 70% passing rate (Fall 2004); 89% passing rate (Spring 2005)

Salary Ranges

Government = \$45k - \$48k

Consulting Firms = \$50k - \$55k

Oil Companies = Add \$5k to \$10k

Add \$5k - \$7k for M.S.

*Faculty Changes

New Faculty Member: Dr. Charles Newhouse

Three ongoing faculty searches

*Faculty Recognition

- University Recognitions
 - Audra Morse
 - ASCE ExCEED New Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award
 - Alumni Association's New Faculty Award, College of Engineering Recipient
 - Hemphill Wells New Professor Excellence in Teaching Academy, Texas Tech Association of Parents

*Research Center Update

- WISE
 - Received \$1.25M Funding for Wind Energy Research
- TechMRT
 - Submitted 18 proposals +/- for new funding next year
- Water Resources Center
 - Received \$500,000 +/- in NASA funds
 - Proposing for big bucks in energy/water initiative
 - Lots of small grants
 - Andrew Jackson has \$1.94M in research over the last year
- Murdough Center
 - Still searching for Director of NIEE
 - Producing lots of short courses
 - Continuing to garner international acclaim

*ABET

- CE has two ABET Accredited Degrees
 - BSCE
 - MEnve

Old Business

- Bylaws – Tom Zachman agreed to take the four different aspects to the Academy: (1) the Purpose and Objectives, (2) the Mission, (3) the Bylaws and (4) the Qualifications and incorporate them into one document. Tom omitted the Mission Statement from the Bylaws and combined all the duplications from the four documents into this one document. He used the same structure as the Bylaws of the Advisory Council. Recommendation was made by Dr. Norville to remove the word externship from Article V, Section 5.2. This is a program no longer provided in the Department. After a review of the revised Bylaws Lauren asked for a motion to accept the Bylaws as written. Bernie Gradel moved that the Bylaws be accepted as

presented with the exception of the word “Externship” in Article V, Section 5.2. Tony Childress seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

New Business

- Transfer of Funds from the CE Academy Account to the CE Academy Scholarship Endowment Fund – Interest Account

After discussion motion was made by Tony Childress to transfer \$5,000 from the CE Academy Fund (4360-44-5897) to the CE Academy Scholarship Endowment Fund – Interest account (416R-44-8375). Paneer Selvam seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

- Election of Officers

As per the CE Bylaws Greg Soules will rotate to the position of Chairman, Tony Childress will assume the office of Vice-Chair and the Academy will nominate a new secretary/treasurer. The floor was opened for nominations or a volunteer for Secretary/Treasurer. Alan Greer volunteered to become the next Secretary/Treasurer.

All officers were elected by acclamation.

Officers for 2006 - 2007

Chair –Greg Soules

V-Chair – Tony Childress

Secretary/Treasurer – Alan Greer

Last Item of Discussion: Level of Attendance

Rick Horn brought up the fact that there have been comments made throughout the Advisory Council meeting and the Academy meeting about the lower level of attendance. He said he had been thinking of possible ways to rejuvenate the level of attendance. One possibility for consideration is providing an Engineering Ethics Seminar on Friday afternoon after the Distinguished Engineers luncheon.

The consensus was that Jimmy Smith will teach an Engineering Ethics Seminar from 2 – 4 p.m. on Friday, March 30, 2007.

Adjourn

There being no further business, Lauren asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion was accepted to adjourn. The motion was seconded. The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Starcher, Business Manager

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE CIVIL ENGINEERING ACADEMY WILL BE SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 2007.