EXCOM meeting 05/02/13

- **Freshman and Sophomore Year Experience Update – Georg Mauer**
  - Second Year Seminar Course (PHIL 242) was approved. Department Chairs will work with their committees to verify and/or adjust programs requirements.
  - Budget request for CS Lab was approved by Chris Heavey.
  - Department Chairs will specify their storage needs for FYE to the space committee.
  - Curriculum committee approved the proposal for increase minimum Math requirement to get into engineering. Changes will be placed in Undergraduate Catalog.

- **Space Discussion – Rama Venkat**
  - Dean Venkat requests cooperation from Department Chairs to come up with ways to improve space efficiency.
  - Department Chairs need a clear definition to identify unwanted items in order to clean their labs. Departments must justify permanency of old/unused equipment.
  - College could request or rent storage space for lab equipment with proper justification.
  - CEEC will contact Dean’s Office to coordinate the moving from TBE B-367 to B-365.

- **Differential Tuition Discussion – Rama Venkat**
  - An exploration meeting discussion on differential tuition was held with Carl Reiber, David James and Mike Sauer.
  - With limited resources, the College is unable to support several student activities and needs effectively. Thus, we will submit a proposal to the Board of Regents for Fall 2013.
  - The College will work on the Differential Tuition proposal for 300-level (junior) and 400-level (senior) courses during this summer.
  - Part of the resources will be used for financial aid and the rest will be returned to the college and will be used for: recruitment, tutoring, mentoring, career and internship placement, advisement, student Organization funds, student competitions, graduate fellowships, undergraduate and graduate conference presentations.
  - Dean Venkat encouraged Department Chairs to discuss the proposal with faculty.
  - Dean Venkat will schedule meetings with student organizations, and engineering students.
  - The board requires that student involvement be part of the process for submitting a differential fee request. In addition, the board requires indication on how student involvement was obtained; including concerns raised by the students and how they were addressed.

- **Graduate Celebration - Rama Venkat**
  - Graduate Celebration was held on Friday, 4/26/13 in SEB Building.
  - Materials for best thesis and best dissertation were reviewed by faculty from other institutions. The winners were announced to all faculty and staff:
  - Best Dissertation Competition:
    - First Place Winner: Ajay Kumar Mandava, Topic: Adaptive Nonlinear Diffusion, Advisor: Dr. Emma Regentova
    - Second Place Winner: Xianfang Tan, Topic: Photonic Network On-Chips, Advisor: Dr. Mei Yang
  - Best Thesis Competition:
    - First Place Winner: Andrew Nordland, Topic: Vehicle Miles Travel (VMT) Advisor: Dr. Alexander Paz-Cruz
    - Second Place Winner: Ming Zhu, Topic: High-Performance Decimal Design, Advisor: Dr. Yingtao Jiang
  - Dr. Trabia performed the quality control of the 34 posters that covers many facets of research within the college. The winners of the poster competition were:
    - 1st Place: Erica Marti, “New N-nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA) precursors that react with ozone: Implications for water reuse” Advisor: Dr. Batista
    - 2nd Place: Mehdi Khalili, “Quality Control of Asphalt Binder Using Ultrasound Testing” Advisor Dr. Karakouzian
    - 3rd Place: Shawoon Roy, "Plastic Deformation of ASTM A36 Steel Using Two-Stage Light Gas Gun" Advisor Dr. O'Toole and Dr. Trabia
  - Faculty from engineering and other colleges attended the competition.
  - The college will look for additional sponsors to increase next year awards.

- **Freshman Orientation – Rama Venkat**
  - Provost’s Office is planning the New Student Orientation with all colleges’ participation.
  - Campus conversations begin to focus in on retention, progression, and completion.
  - The 2013 New Student Orientation concentrated effort to include faculty and academic focus throughout the program.
  - This year's New Student Orientation sessions requires both faculty and academic advisors to participate in the events.
  - Dr. Mauer will work with Advising, Tutoring Center, and Shannon Spollen on the presentation for the college.