

**College of Engineering and Applied Science  
Department of Civil Engineering and Mechanics  
Minutes of the Industrial Advisory Council Meeting**

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Date: May 10, 2000

Place: EMS E375

Members Present: M. Aquino, L. Graef, T. Giles, R. Videkovich, A. Wagner

Faculty Present: Profs. Beimbom, Bratanow, Helwany, Horowitz, Lee, Naik, Shaikh, Tabatabai

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Announcements

The College has a new Dean, William Gregory, who will begin his position on June 1. The Department has recruited a new faculty member, Dr. Azadeh Parvin, in Engineering Mechanics/Structural Mechanics. She will begin at UWM in September 2000.

Curriculum Changes:

- a) Curriculum changes discussed at previous meetings have been made and have received final university approval and are set to be implemented in Fall 2000. IAC input was extremely useful in getting the changes made and approved.
- b) It was indicated that there is a possibility of changes in the Chemistry requirements, which could free up three credits in the curriculum. Various ways to use the three credits were discussed. Some members felt that students need education on better people skills (how to manage your career, how to find a mentor, what are the expectations of an engineer beyond the technical aspects of their job). Other members were concerned that there needs to be more technical content in the program. It appeared that additional credits should probably be electives rather than a requirement to give students choices. The department should also look at courses as Valparaiso as well as the professional seminars and Senior Design at UWM to help in these areas. Work to develop a Civil Engineering Project Management course should proceed.

Mission Statement:

The present mission statement was reviewed along with a possible revision. Advisory committee members agreed that the current statement was too long and should be shortened. There was considerable discussion of the use of the term “urban” in the statement.

It was pointed out that this is probably necessary to relate to the overall university mission and that it shouldn't be meant to limit departmental activity. Committee members were asked to give comments to Professor Beimbom via e-mail (beimbom@uwm.edu) in the next two weeks.

Graduate Programs:

Prof. Beimborn noted that there is a university committee that looks at developing an engineering management program similar to the executive MBA program. This is a 16-month program with all day classes on Fridays and Saturdays every other week. Mr. Giles suggested that only a select group of people could meet that schedule.

Graduate Fellowships/Internships:

There was some discussion of graduate fellowships/internships. It was suggested that a plan should be first developed. This could initially involve up to six firms and three students.

Other Business:

Prof. Naik suggested that Dean Gregory should be invited to the next IAC meeting.

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Respectfully submitted

Habib Tabatabai  
Recording Secretary