Agenda, November 30, 2001
CCGB Meeting

1. Approval of Minutes of 11/16/01 Meeting
2. Undergraduate Announcements
3. Proposal for AEW Credit for ENGRG 112 and CS 211 (T. Shapiro)
4. Status of Small Math Sections Agreements (T. Healey)
5. ABET Working Group on Assessment (T. Jordan)
6. Planning for Next Semester; Standing Committees?

CCGB Minutes
November 16, 2001


Ex-Officio: P. Beebe, D. Cox, B. East, D. Maloney-Hahn, T. Thompson

Other: C. Pakkala, F. Shumway

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of November 9th, 2001 were accepted as written.

Undergraduate Announcements: D. Maloney Hahn (Advising) stated that his office had processed 8 leaves of absence and had 3 more in process. He and his co-workers in Advising have seen more psychological problems amongst the students, and they believe that it is likely due to the September 11th attack.

B. East (Admissions) mentioned that the hosting for under-represented minority groups went very well and thanked the faculty for their participation.

T. Thompson (Registrar) requested that all course instructors submit their grades on time due to the tight schedule created by the holiday. He reminded the faculty that ALL grades must be submitted by 1/2/01 at noon at the very latest.

D. Cox (Assist. Dean) mentioned that ASPAC guidelines might change, in part due to the extraordinary events that have occurred during the fall semester.

Evaluating Transfer Credits for Transfer Students: B. East (Admissions) spoke about the need to admit transfer students to even out enrollment in the College and address the budget issues. The yield of transfer students is down this year from last year, possibly due to the uncertain economy. The pilot project to centralize transfer credit evaluations did not meet the original objectives. D. Maloney Hahn (Advising) will meet with the field coordinators to discuss the process of evaluating transfer credits. B. East emphasized the importance of receiving course descriptions for all of the courses for which the students want to receive credit. F. Shumway (Admissions) is the transfer coordinator for the College. D. Cox (Assist. Dean) stated that the transfer student target is 60 and that transfers are not admitted in January, largely due to the sequential nature of courses, financial aid and orientation logistics. She suggested that faculty members discuss the topic with their colleagues if they’re interested in changing the process. C. Van Loan (CS) asked about a limit to the number of transfer courses accepted. His department only accepts transfer courses of the first 3 levels of CS courses but nothing higher, and he wondered if this limitation affected any of the students’ acceptances. B. East replied that the limitation
doesn’t seem to have had an adverse affect on the students. C. Van Loan asked if enrollment management was an issue in not admitting students in January. D. Cox replied that it is, and attrition is high in Engineering students; these students leave Engineering and go to other colleges at Cornell where they are successful. M. Duncan (ChemE) stated that attrition isn’t bad because it allows students to explore areas where they might be happier and more successful. D. Maloney Hahn added that sometimes students transfer from other colleges at Cornell to Engineering, with the majority coming from Arts & Sciences, generally during their sophomore year. S. Wicker (ECE) suggested that this topic be revisited in February.

Does CCGB want to be proactive in suggesting the way to integrate ethics into the curriculum? S. Wicker (ECE) asked the CCGB members if they had any ideas about where the Ethics person should be housed and what they envision this person doing for the College. C. Van Loan (CS) suggested that liberal elective courses in ethics be offered to satisfy the College’s ethics requirement. T. Jordan (Assoc. Dean) stated that there isn’t enough funding or faculty support to teach stand-alone ethics courses every semester. T. Healey (T&AM) suggested that some of the Engineering 150 courses be hard-wired to include ethics. F. Gouldin (M&AE) stated that the infusion of ethics into courses should exist during the senior year, with some lectures in the design course focusing on ethics. The senior-level ethics education should focus on professional ethics and engineering practice. D. Maloney Hahn (Advising) mentioned that a selection of ethics points should be covered rather than having ethics in a stand-alone class. Ethics could be covered in Engineering 150 classes or in the Communications classes. C. Van Loan responded that the volume of courses should be kept the same. He emphasized the importance of liberal education for engineering students and stated that ethics doesn’t have to be taught in Engineering. F. Gouldin asked whose responsibility ethics is and suggested that the Engineering College help with the feedback loops and other issues related to ABET. T. Jordan replied that the Bovay ethics chair will have the responsibility of helping departments throughout the college satisfy the ethics requirement. L. Lion (CEE) stated that since the EC2000 requirements for ethics are pervasive throughout the college, the college should decide how it wants to tackle ethics and get rolling with it. T. Jordan mentioned that 4 ethics candidates would come to Cornell to present lunchtime seminars, with the first coming on 11/28/01. Faculty and students are invited to attend.

The College’s Reasons for Obtaining ABET Accreditation: T. Jordan (Assoc. Dean) stated that the Dean said that we need to obtain ABET accreditation for several reasons: 1) Satisfy prospective students, their parents, and Cornell alumni, who often ask if a college is accredited. F. Shumway (Admissions) mentioned that in half of her info. sessions the question of accreditation is raised. T. Jordan added that U.S. News and World Report only ranks ABET accredited schools. 2) The ABET process will allow us to reflect on current processes and workloads, enabling healthy changes and evolution. T. Healey (T&AM) stated that all Big 10 Plus schools are involved with ABET. M. Duncan (ChemE) questioned the usefulness of ABET, and wondered how important it would be to students in the grand scheme of things (i.e. when compared to research, teaching, parking on campus, etc.). T. Healey (T&AM) asked why both internal reviews and ABET are needed. L. Lion (CEE) stated that if Cornell Engineering is not accredited, it will be doing a disservice to the students because it will take students 4 years longer to get their professional license.

The meeting adjourned at 9:02 a.m.