

Industrial Advisory Committee
School of Applied Engineering & Technology
Meeting Minutes: April 22, 2022
ENGR A131

Present:

IAC members:

- Shawn Batka, Vice President, Supply Chain Operations, Blistex
- Kent Gouty, Quality Engineer (GM – Bedford)
- Chuck Kuhn, Vice President, Quality and Production Control (Aisin Electronics Illinois)
- Derek Naylor, Senior Manager, eCommerce Fulfillment Engineering, Sam’s Club
- Chris Numi, Continuous Improvement Specialist, SIH
- Ron Milligan, Chief Systems Engineer (Boeing), retired
- Erik Perks, Plant Manager (Prysmian Group)
- Jim Sheehan, General Manager, Radiac Abrasives
- Gabe Smith, Plant Quality Engineering Manager, John Deere
- Kyle Snow, Project Manager, U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs
- Bart Welker, Manager of Operational Excellence (Department of Central Management, State of Illinois)

Faculty:

- Bruce DeRuntz
- Julie Dunston
- John Legier
- Ron Parks
- Tomas Velasco

1. Introduction of Members

The meeting commenced with a welcome from Xiaoqing Liu, Dean of the College of Engineering, Computing, Technology and Mathematics, followed by an introduction of the industrial advisory committee members and faculty. Dean Liu stated that increasing enrollment is the focus of the college and that Directors/faculty/staff must be engaged in the process. The college has launched program-specific marketing campaigns and this has resulted in an increase in applications and admissions within the college. Emphasis is now on yielding students.

2. Approval of Spring 2021 Minutes

Minutes of the Industrial Advisory Committee meeting held on April 30, 2021, were reviewed. *Motion to approve the minutes was made by D. Naylor, seconded by B. Welker. Motion was approved unanimously.*

3. Nomination of New Member – Glenn Edwards

Glenn Edwards, Technical Specialist, Illinois Manufacturing Excellence Center was unable to attend the IAC meeting. Therefore, the committee decided to table this agenda item to the next meeting when Glenn is able to attend.

4. Updates

SIU Strategic Plan	<p>a. J. Dunston announced that SIU has developed a new Strategic Plan, Imagine 2030. The plan consists of 5 pillars: Student Success & Engagement; Diversity, Equity & Inclusion; Branding & Partnerships; Research & Innovations; Sustainability. The plan can be viewed in its entirety on the Chancellor’s website, https://imagine2030.siu.edu.</p>
TT Faculty Search	<p>b. This past academic year, the School of AE&T has been conducting a search for a tenure-track faculty member. Dr. Tomas Velasco was chair of the search committee and stated that there were over 230 applications submitted. The top candidate that the faculty selected took a position at another institution. Faculty convened and decided to pursue the hiring of the second candidate and currently, the Director and Dean are working on negotiating a start-up package with the candidate. The start date for the position is August 2022.</p>
Enrollment	<p>c. Enrollment numbers for the IMAE program by site (on campus, off campus, and online) were presented. Early indications for fall 2022 are that campus enrollment will stabilize and growth continues in the online program. Credit hours generated include enrollment in IMAE courses from students in other majors. There are IMAE courses regularly taken as approved electives by students in Mechanical Engineering, Business Administration (supply chain management specialization), and Automotive Technology, The Aviation Maintenance Management program has two IMAE courses listed in their core classes: IMAE 450 Project Management and IMAE 470a Six Sigma Green Belt I.</p> <p>IAC members commented on the enrollment challenge: employees are being hired with equivalent experience/no degree (K. Gouty); talent pipeline has changed, not promoting from within (D. Naylor), decreasing population within the state (B. Welker).</p> <p>Comments/suggestions were made on increasing enrollment and accommodating current students. D. Naylor commented that the balance between work and taking courses needs to be considered. K. Snow suggested a focus on companies that provide employee educational benefits to support employee retention. G. Smith stated that some of the barriers to education need to be removed so that it is less stringent. K. Snow commented that coordinating meetings with HR would be helpful in looking at their organizational chart/goals to see how SIU could align. C. Kuhn suggested identifying companies that provide 100% reimbursement for courses and target employees with AAS degrees, as well as establishing KPIs for attaining</p>

	<p>enrollment goals and aligning with the targeted headcount for campus. R. Milligan suggested increasing engagement with community colleges, particularly in the St. Louis area.</p>
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5. Discussion Items

<p>a. ATMAE Feedback Report</p>	<p>i. The IMAE program received full compliance on 15 of the 19 ATMAE standards. Partial compliances were indicated on four of the standards and the visiting team comments were shared with IAC members</p> <p>Standard 2: The first partial compliance was on Standard 2 – Program Definition. The ATMAE review team indicated that there was an insufficient number of courses in quality to name a Quality Management specialization. The discussion continued from the Spring 2021 IAC meeting.</p> <p>K. Snow asked if the specialization was indicated on the degree title. J. Dunston replied that the diploma does not list the specialization but that it does appear on the student’s transcript. D. Naylor commented that the specialization name did not encompass all content in the curriculum, such as supply chain. B. Welker added that ASQ is emphasizing Quality 4.0. S. Batka stated that Quality Management is limiting. G. Smith and C. Kuhn agreed.</p> <p><i>G. Smith made a motion to remove the Quality Management specialization, seconded by D. Naylor. Motion was approved unanimously.</i></p> <p>Standard 6: The next partial compliance was related to Standard 6 and the number of credit hours under the management/technical electives category. The range given by ATMAE is 42-60, with the IMAE program listing 64 hours. There was discussion on removing one of the existing courses to reduce the number of management/technical coursework. Suggestions included IMAE 110, IMAE 208 or IMAE 445. J. Dunston commented that a University requirement for all degrees is the completion of 42 senior institution hours, which includes 300 and 400 level coursework. Eliminating any course at this level would impact students’ degree plans and make it more difficult for online/off-campus students to fulfill the 42 hour requirement.</p> <p>The proposal is to reduce the number of technical elective hours required and increase the number of electives (general), with revised totals provided in the table below. J. Dunston stated that she would review the changes with advisors to ensure that this does not create unforeseen obstacles for students.</p>
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Categories	Required Hours	IMAE
General Ed	18-36	33
Mathematics	6-18	7
Physical Science	6-18	8
Mgt &/or Tech	42-60	60
Electives	0-18	12

Standard 16: This standard refers to employer satisfaction with job performance of graduates. The partial compliance was related to the low response rate on the employer survey that was sent out. J. Dunston presented a revised survey to send to employers that omits the identification of individual employees. The IAC members reviewed and C. Kuhn recommended combining questions 3 and 6. Question 3 asks “If there are other competencies that you feel are important to consider when evaluating our graduates, please list here” and Questions 6 states “What additional skills/training are desirable for graduates of the IMAE program?” B. Welker suggested that we distribute the survey to employers of our graduates at next year’s ASQ conference.

A motion was made by C. Kuhn to approve the revised survey and distribute at the next ASQ conference, seconded by G. Smith. Motion was approved unanimously.

Standard 19: The program received a partial compliance related to the “program responsibility to provide information to the public”. J. Dunston reviewed the information provided by other ATMAE accredited programs on their website and will follow a similar format. The University is in the process of creating new websites for all Schools so this standard will be addressed once this website is finalized.

Strategic Analytics Courses

b. Last semester, Kevin Sylwester, Director of the School of Analytics, Finance, and Economics, met with the faculty to provide information on their new degree, a BS in Business and Analytics. Kevin provided a list of courses that may be of interest to IMAE students and these were shared with the committee. These courses could be taken to fulfill IMAE technical electives or they could become part of a specialization to be added at a future time. D. Naylor commented that the program could consider a specialization in analytics, along with another areas such as supply chain.

Courses that the committee recommended for IMAE students are BSAN 401, 402 and 406. G. Smith added that information visualization (BSAN 406) is important. D. Naylor suggested taking Six Sigma prior to the BSAN courses.

D. Naylor made a motion to explore the possibility of adding an analytics specialization, seconded by J. Sheehan. Motion approved unanimously.

IAC Bylaws Review	c. The IAC Bylaws were reviewed and several changes were recommended. J. Dunston will revise the current document and send to IAC members for final review/feedback and approval of changes.
Recruitment Strategies & Input	d. Earlier in the meeting, recruitment strategies were presented (see Enrollment section). R. Milligan suggested offering certificate programs that address skill gaps. D. Naylor mentioned a program that MIT is offering, a micro masters in supply chain, and offered to provide further details.

6. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by B. Welker, seconded by J. Sheehan.