Minutes from the Manufacturing Engineering Advisory Board Meeting
December 12, 2008


Absent: Cory Cauwels, Don Craighead, Scott Graf, Matt Hafele, Larry Henderson, Timothy Hughes, Andy Myers, John Pearson, Bruno Rahn, Dean Schley, Paul Thomas, Bob Vytlacil, Robert Feirn, Pete Heimdahl, Mark Larchez, Bob Meyer, Carol Mooney, Don Olson, Marty Ondrus, Jerry Roiter, John Wesolek

(Bold indicates professional in the field)

1. Lin Stradins welcomed everyone and introductions were done.

2. Minutes from the May 8, 2008 advisory board meeting were approved as distributed.
   (Zito/Bee)

3. Program Update – Lin Stradins

   There are approximately 210 students in the program. 43 freshmen started this fall. There will be 7 graduates on Saturday. Applications are good – 28 applied for next fall.

   Capstone projects are going more green and affect real life. This could be used as a marketing/recruitment tool that engineers do affect the world.

4. Exit Survey Results – Danny Bee

   Exit survey results continue to be very good. The placement office is doing a good job. There has been an increase in the companies coming to campus. Skill development showed improvement.

5. Recruitment Efforts

   Engineering and Technology Career Day has been successful. Students who came to an E & T Career Day are now attending Stout. Rich attended the National Minnesota Fair. Other recruitment activities include: STEPS, First Lego League, Skills USA as well as high school groups visiting campus.

6. M.S. in Manufacturing Engineering - Danny Bee

   There are 24 students taking classes – approximately 30 new students. There is a 7 year time limit to complete the degree. The program will have 3 graduates tomorrow – one from Toronto.
7. Open Discussion

Discussion on the engineering shadow experience was discussed and many felt it was a good idea. Kurt said he would be interested. A suggestion was made to have a list available – women engineers, placement office mentoring program, Lin’s network, alumni.

Higher numbers in the program mean we are offering some courses more often. More students are interested in dual degrees such as manufacturing engineering/plastics engineering.

A three year engineering degree has been proposed. This might be a good recruitment tool. Classes would be offered all year – this would make use of the facilities over the summer. Many courses would have to be rewritten. Both BS and MS degrees could be completed in 4 years.

SAE received publicity from Auto Week – another good recruitment tool.

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Friday, May 8, 2009. Capstone projects will be in the morning – probably around 10:00 am with the meeting starting at noon.