Professor Juan Heinrich – Introduction
- The Town Hall meetings are a place to exchange ideas.
- Our goal is to give students experience and education possible, but in order to do that, we need feedback
- Plan to have Town Hall meetings twice a semester

**Announcements**

**ABET – Positive Result**
- The only weakness was in the area of program outcomes. The changes being made with regard to program outcomes will be largely transparent to the students as they are focused on faculty efforts.

**Big Ticket Items Purchased**
- 2 new milling machines
- Allow for concurrent lab participation for all students

**The ME Department Newsletter will be reinstated.**
- Pi Tau Sigma voted
- Dr. Khraishi honorary member
- Dina recognized for her support

**CAPS – James McCormack tutors many engineering students, however he will be graduating and they will need someone to replace him. Anyone interested should contact CAPS.**

**Minority Engineering Program (MEP) - James Mumma**
- HESO
- NSBE
- AISES
- Career development / Career Fairs
- Don’t have to be a specific minority to join
- Tapy 222 – They have tutoring and a computer lab

**Professional Society Reports**

**ASME – Miguel Casias, President.**
- Need new members
- Next meeting will be 11/23 at noon. Dr. Walker will be the guest speaker.
- Officers: Danny Carpenter, Marcus Bellamy, Aleisha Lewis
- Chapters earn points for how involved they are with activities.

**AIAA – Randy Truman, Faculty Advisory**
- Need new members
- Good professional organization
- AIAA will host a distinguished lecturer on January 25, 2005
- Regional Student Conference 4/8 and 9, 2005
FSAE – Robert Chavez, Team Captain
- 39th out of 140 international teams at the competition last May.
- Student wanting to become a member of SAE do not need to be in the FSAE class to be eligible to join.
- New team begins Spring 05
- Looking to have car done by late January
- Meetings are held every Friday @ 2:00 in the FSAE Shop

SWE – Christian Olcott, Member
- Need new members
- Membership is open to males.
- Coordinate with professionals around town (Good contacts with Intel and Sandia)
- Application forms available

MEGA – Lynn Munday, President
- Primarily a social organization
- Plan meetings or trips
- Had BBQ from Student Fees monies

ABET Report
ABET changed the evaluation process to know how well we assess our proposed outcomes. They are no longer asking for specific courses to conform to ME programs across the country, but rather specific units of in various areas. We are no longer required to teach Finite Elements per se.

The curriculum is being constantly changed. Data collected every semester but evaluated every three years.

Prof. Bob Greenlee, ME ABET Coordinator:
Each school can develop a specialty area. ME is developing the UNM program. The outcomes for the ME program are in the ME handbook, which is available in the department office. One of the outcomes from student feedback is the 5 semesters design sequence. Another is the change to tie individual course lectures and corresponding labs together.

Data collection on students and observations from faculty is how ME continually looks at improving the curriculum. We have looked at “areas” in the past. ABET want us to look at “course” level topics.

OPEN FORUM

*Comment:
Classes based on problem solving in books. Want more hands on applications and be able to start earlier working teams. Perhaps we could toward a better equilibrium between theory and practice.
*Dr. Starr:
- The Lego Robot Course is a “hands on” course, but isn’t offered every semester.
  A Digital Controls course is being developed and will be offered soon.
- The ASME Student Robot contest entry took first place in the region and will be competing in Anaheim.
- David and Stephen Yao demonstrated the robot.
- Students can receive credit for participating.
*Christina Olcott:
- At one point there was talk of an Engineering Open House Family Day. Is that still going to happen?

*Prof. Heinrich:
- He would like to see that happen for the ME department, although the original plan was for the entire School of Engineering.

*Robert Chavez:
- There are two CNC machines; are there going to be any courses teaching how to use the CNC machines?
- Can we hire someone?
- Currently mostly undergrads know how use the machines.
- There doesn’t appear to be any maintenance for the machines. How can we make sure the Fidel and lathe machines are properly maintained?

*Prof. Heinrich:
- He is aware of this and is working on answers to these questions. Although they may not come quickly, they will not be forgotten.
- He also heard that the Rapid Prototype Machine is melting down, and this too, will be addressed.
- Need to reorganize the way we operate; hiring someone will take more doing.

*Robert Chavez:
- There is concern around the 260 class and their somewhat exclusive use of the tools.
- Senior Design needs access to tools as well.
- Is a Tooling Crib and option?
- Maybe sign out tools?
- What’s available is substandard.

*Prof. Heinrich:
- How can we control them so they aren’t stolen?
- By next Fall (2005) plan to get problems ironed out.
- Plans to get a faculty member up to speed on the CNC machines.

*Comment:
- There is a substantial need for MS office to be on every computer in the lab.
- “Extend” additional licenses are needed ($200 ea.).

*Comment:
- Do we know what Grad courses are going to be offered over the next few semesters?
- Are we going to offer a Computation Mechanics Part II class?

*Prof. Heinrich and Prof. Lumia:
- Prof. Lumia is coordinating a 3 year plan (best guess depending on faculty availability)
- The plan is to have it completed by early January.
- It will be for graduate and undergraduate courses.
- The instructors for Computational Mechanics are both on sabbatical this year.

Prof. Heinrich is open for a meeting at all times he’s available.

Town Hall Adjourned.