



MINUTES

EDUCATION COMMITTEE (EDU)

Thursday, December 1st, 2016, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Conf bridge: 1 866 512-0904 Access: 2697824#

Chair: Samer Inchasi, P.Eng.
Vice-Chair: Michael Arthur, P.Eng.
Attendees: Karen Cain, P.Eng. (via teleconference)
Gordon Griffith, P.Eng.
Radomir Grigorov, P.Eng.
John Hazel, P.Eng. (via teleconference)
Hao Li
Ravi Peri, P.Eng.
Paymon Sani, P.Eng.
Staff Advisors: Tracey Caruana, P.Eng.
Adeilton Ribeiro, P.Eng.
Guest: Erica Lee Garcia, P.Eng.
Rebecca White
Regrets: Priscilla Williams, EIT

1.0 Call to Order

Samer Inchasi called the meeting to order at approximately 7:05 pm.
Gordon Griffith was confirmed as the meeting evaluator for the meeting.

1.2 Approval of Agenda

John Hazel moved to approve the Agenda. Gordon Griffith seconded the motion. All present approved.

1.3 Approval of Minutes of the 21 September 2016 meeting

Michael Arthur moved to approve the Minutes of the 21 September 2016 meeting. Gordon Griffith seconded the motion. All present approved.

2.0 Action Register review

Tracey Caruana reviewed the action items on the Action Register with the Committee and updated accordingly.

3.0 New Member Introductions

Samer InChasi introduced the new EDU committee members: John Hazel and Pyamon Sani. Tracey Caruana introduced the new staff member, Adeilton Ribeiro.

4.0 Sub-committee/Project Updates

4.1 Engineer-in-Residence (EIR)

Ravi Peri provided an update on EIR. Going forward, Ravi would like to focus on more outreach and would like to incorporate one-on-one meetings with EIRs. Erica Lee Garcia and Rebecca White were in attendance to provide an update on the EIR program (see section 5.0).

4.2 Engineering Innovations Forum (EIF) Update

Radomir Grigorov gave an update on the recent EIF meetings he has attended. Radomir has confirmed that the topic for next year will be 'Self-driving cars – Transformers of the future'. The date of the forum is March 8, 2017.

The venue is confirmed at the Royal Botanical Gardens. EIF is expecting that the event will be sold out quickly due to the topic, therefore they are planning to open an additional room. EIF is also considering live streaming the event. A suggestion was made that we link the video on the EDU website.

As of the last meeting, there was not much desire to put forth many of the ideas. There are plans to visit schools in the area to get some interest and to try to bring in first year students. Funding has also been another problem. Radomir will keep pushing through the channels.

4.3 PEO-OSPE Math paper

Radomir Grigorov provided an update on the math position paper. The committee agreed that the problem is not only with the curriculum, but with the math education in general and that many levels will need to be addressed. They understand that they lack expertise regarding curriculum review, and that there are further issues in addition to the topic of curriculum. Therefore, they would like to consult with subject matter experts and hope to join with stakeholders that have a say on the topic and come up with a solution.

Before assigning a task force, the committee would like to have a roundtable discussion of what to do about the issue. The committee would like to discuss further if they should state that the math "education" is not working/not supporting, rather than the math "curriculum".

The committee would like to question OSPE on the change of "Education" to "Curriculum". It is believed that everything in the paper can be defended and they would like to clarify points before speaking with OSPE again. The committee will continue to prepare a plan to eventually present to the government and ask how they will be able to work with the committee on the problems.

The committee is aiming for the March council meeting.

Action: Tracey to set up a meeting with Catrina from OSPE and possibly their president or board member over the next couple weeks.

4.4 EDU outreach material - Postcards update

Michael Arthur followed up with Sheridan regarding production of the EDU postcards and they will be able to accommodate him in January. Michael will be able to find out who the students are by the end of the semester. He has mentioned what it is about to them and at this point this is all the information they need to know.

4.5 Engineering Change Lab

For the future, the EDU will begin to review the labs on a case by case basis and the attendance should be pre-approved before purchasing a ticket. In addition, they will need to receive feedback from the conference as well as a report. The benefit of the change lab is to give exposure to the EIR program. Sam Inchasi and Ravi Peri will discuss the approval of the Engineering Change Lab further. Ravi will send out an email for the committee's approval.

Action: Ravi to send out an email regarding approval of the Engineering Change Lab and will follow up with Erica.

4.6 Other

There have been a number of education outreach requests that have come in. The committee did not get to this item. An email will be sent to the committee summarizing the events for approval.

Action: Tracey Caruana to send an email for approval of education outreach events.

5.0 EIR Progress and Goals

Erica Lee Garcia and Rebecca White were in attendance from EWB.

Rebecca gave an overview on the program and highlighted the Lambton chapter's success. There are currently 162 unmatched schools. Erica also mentioned the intention of hopefully connecting to the chapters as well.

They mentioned that they spent the first couple years listening and making changes. They work together with the teachers, rather than giving them the idea that the EIR is there to take over from the teacher. One of the teachers has planned to give workshops that so far has a great turnout. They are trying to promote "The Engineering Hat" which shows teachers that they have to play many roles to teach kids, and would like for them to wear the engineering hat so eventually they will no longer need an EIR. There is a webinar on December 8th.

Paymon Sani suggested training for EIRs.

There was discussion regarding the term for EWB and that the term is almost up. A briefing note will be required for an extension for three more years. Ravi does not see an increase in cost by increasing EIR. However, changes to the scope may be subject to financial increases.

The committee is all in support of extending the term. It was agreed that three years is not long enough to determine what the program is about. EWB spent the first couple years observing what is working and what is not working. The final year was spent implementing the lessons learned. The committee would like to give them the opportunity to continue growing the program as they are happy with the progress and would rather not de-rail the progress.

Action: Sam Inchasi to check the RFP, the contract with EIR and the terms of reference to allow for an extension of EWB's term.

Action: Tracey Caruana to discuss EIR with Scott Clark and the next steps to decide if an extension will be accepted or briefing note is required.

6.0 Volunteer Service Recognition

It was brought to the committee's attention that the volunteer service recognition program will allow recognition to be given to those who volunteer on sub-committees such as the Education Conference. While committee members are automatically recognized for service, sub-committee members are currently not. Volunteer management would have to receive an email from the chair to this effect. It is being proposed that those who have previously volunteered for the Education Conference would receive service recognition for the 2015 and 2016 conferences.

The question was raised if one year of recognition would be too much. It was agreed that the Education Conference is a lot of work even for three months. Sam Inchasi agrees that they should be rewarded and recognized. However, this will not be considered for those who show up once and do not continue to attend. Attendance should be tracked. The Education Conference Chair will be the one who will speak to that and make the decisions.

The committee agreed on volunteer service recognition and this item was closed. The Education Conference Chair will report recognition to Matt Ng.

7.0 HR Status

Two positions were filled on the EDU committee by Paymon Sani and John Hazel. There has been no update on filling the council position.

In the new year, the committee will discuss any interest in becoming Chair and Vice-Chair once the term is up for Sam Inchasi and Michael Arthur.

8.0 Chapter Liaison Report / Chapter Funding Request

There is one chapter funding request from the North Bay chapter which is to purchase equipment for a science program covering grades 7 to 12 students. The EDU members recommended that instead of using item 1 mentioned on the funding request form, it is suggested that they use an alternative which may be less susceptible to damage. There is a maximum of \$1000 per chapter. Sam agrees to the funding of \$1000.

Gordon Griffith motioned to approve the funding. Ravi Peri seconded the motion. All present approved.

9.0 Education Conference

There was discussion regarding the Education Conference and calling out for volunteers in the new year. Paymon Sani volunteered to take over as the Education Conference chair. The conference will be further discussed in the new year.

10.0 Other business

10.1 Expense claims

Action: All EDU members are reminded to submit any outstanding expense claims

10.2 Round Table

Paymon Sani is requesting clickers for events.

11.0 Meeting evaluation

Gordon Griffith provided an evaluation of the meeting to the EDU Committee.

12.0 Next meeting and Adjournment

Sam Inchasi moved to adjourn the meeting at approximately 9:25 pm. Paymon Sani seconded the motion. The next EDU Committee meeting date is to be determined. The next Math Paper sub-committee teleconference meeting will be December 20th at 7 PM.

Action: Sam Inchasi and Tracey Caruana to decide on the next meeting date and send to the committee.