

RUNSTAD CENTER ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes of Meeting Wednesday, October 19, 2011

Members Present: Eric Campbell, Matthew Gardner, Anthony Gibbons, Douglas Howe, Greg Johnson, Mike Makar, Kerry Nicholson, Peter Orser, Chris Owens, Larry Remmers, Jon Runstad, Judy Runstad, Lisa Stewart, and Tom Tierney

Ex-Officio Members Present: Dean Daniel Friedman and George Rolfe.

Others Present: Melissa Best, Chris Bitter, Suzanne Cartwright, Julia Desmond, Katlin Jackson, Anne Lawler, Chris Napier, and Carol Davis.

Larry Remmers, Chair, opened the meeting at 3:30 pm. The Advisory Board members and other attendees introduced themselves. Minutes from the Board Meeting of June 1, 2011, were moved, seconded, and unanimously approved.

Reports:

Runstad Center Finances – Dean Daniel Friedman gave an update on the University's current budgeting process. Dean Friedman will be having budgeting meetings soon with the University after which time budgeting for the College of Built Environments can be determined. No doubt that large budget shortfalls are being faced University wide, but may be offset by some growth in tuition due to the new tuition setting authority granted the University by the Washington Legislature. Dean Friedman gave a general overview of how the University's tuition funds are shared with the College of Built Environments and the use of funds within the College of Built Environments and its departments. The sharing of the University's tuition funds does not always match up with the goals of interdisciplinary learning, which is a challenge. Dean Friedman emphasized that the College of Built Environments needs to protect its core mission of academic instruction and has a goal of not having the students experience the budget cuts (e.g., holding student to teacher ratios steady). The University and the College of Built Environments will need to aggressively explore all sources of revenues other than tuition and increase efficiency in the delivery of student credit hours. The College of Built Environments is committed to continuing promoting the MSRE program. Dean Friedman answered the Advisory Board's budgeting questions.

2010/2011 Academic Year Review – Suzanne Cartwright gave an overview of last year's significant activities and programs including: (a) MSRE student orientation was expanded, (b) Terry Grissom was hired as a visiting faculty member, (c) Affiliates Fellows Program and the Mentors Program successfully launched, (d) NAIOP competition was a success, (e) Runstad Center speaker series was well attended and a success, (f) additional funding for Decision Commons secured, (g) the Runstad Center's new 5-year Strategic Plan completed, and (h) the first class of MSRE students graduated.

2011/2012 Academic Year Focus and Goals – Larry Remmers reminded the Advisory Board that the Runstad Center's mission, vision, goals, actions, and branding should be guided by producing the best MSRE graduates. For the 2011/2012 academic year, one major focus of the Advisory Board and the Executive Committee will be on branding for the Runstad Center and the MSRE program with the goal of being the premier brand in the Pacific Northwest and the West Coast. Students are the best branding tool. Andrew Wood has been appointed as chair of a new ad hoc branding committee and Eric Campbell has been appointed as chair of a new ad hoc student development committee. Andrew Wood and Eric Campbell will be reaching out to Advisory Board members to populate these new ad hoc committees and members are strongly encouraged to participate. Larry Remmers thanked the Advisory Board for its involvement to date in a variety of important activities such as, among other things, student mentoring, networking, sponsorships, hiring, and class room speaking. Larry Remmers asked each Advisory Board member to continue to look for ways to contribute and be involved. Larry Remmers assured the Advisory Board that

new 5-year Strategic Plan adopted last year will not just sit on the shelf, but will be actively managed.

Addition of MSRE Student Board Member – Larry Remmers directed the attention of the Advisory Board members to the Proposed Amendment No. 1 to Bylaws distributed earlier. The Proposed Amendment No. 1 to Bylaws provides for a MSRE student leader to be appointed as an Advisory Board member. A motion for adoption of the Proposed Amendment No. 1 to Bylaws was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved. Larry Remmers introduced Julia Desmond as the first MSRE student leader appointed as an Advisory Board member.

2011 Graduate Employment and MSRE Student Summer Internships – Suzanne Cartwright reported on graduate job placements and MSRE student summer internships. Some successes with respect internships include very meaningful and substantive internships of MSRE students with Wells Fargo, Microsoft and Tarragon. Suzanne Cartwright continues to actively seek student internships and graduate job opportunities and all Advisory Board members are encouraged to help.

First-Year MSRE Students – Chris Bitter provided an overview of the composition of new first-year MSRE class. This is the third MSRE class. Overall, the students in the new first-year MSRE class are all very good quality students. The new first-year MSRE class has the highest average GPA of any class and the highest ratio of international students. Chris Bitter also provided an overview of how the students were selected. For this class, prior work experience, personal statement and other activities were weighted heavier. Chris Bitter answered the Advisory Board's questions regarding the student admissions process and criteria. More focus on marketing and promoting the MSRE program is planned including involvement by Dean Friedman and Edgar Gonzales, the new Assistant Dean for Advancement and External Relations in the College of Built Environments. George Rolfe added that quality job placement for MSRE graduates is critical to building the reputation of the MSRE program and building an alumni network will help drive the quality of the applicants.

Director Report - George Rolfe reported on various actions, efforts and activities taking place within the Runstad Center and the MSRE Program including: (a) authorization has been received to search for a new full professor with tenure and a search committee has been formed, (b) the professional development and leadership curriculum is being reworked, (c) currently exploring the role of student competitions and how to get best results and how to award academic credit, (d) 5 new \$1,000 scholarships for the next 3 years have been established by CoreNet Global, and (e) hard at work securing second round of funding for Decision Commons.

Washington Center for Real Estate Research (WCRER) – Larry Remmers reported on the move of the WCRER to UW. Glenn Crellin, the current Director of the WCRER, will be moved to UW by the end of January. Representative from the existing board of the WCRER and the Runstad Center Advisory Board are talking about how to best integrate WCRER. Chris Napier will represent the Advisory Board with the help of Larry Remmers and another Advisory Board member. The existing board of the WCRER will likely remain largely intact and become a new research committee. Anne Lawler and Matthew Gardner, current members of the WCRER board, were introduced and gave a brief overview of the WCRER and its mission and work products.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 pm.