

September 2017 Open Forum and Board Meeting Summary

Materials are on the [Board Meeting Microsite](#) and [Engineers Canada website](#), as linked in item titles.

President's Report

President Russ Kinghorn presented his report and discussed key observations from several meetings he attended, including: the lack of regulator jurisdiction beyond the 12 mile limit from the shoreline and the potential for a national position statement on this issue; progress made by the governance committee on the Governance, Strategic Planning, and Consultation project; and, progress made by the AU Task Force in agreeing to reassess AUs and potentially develop exemplars of the application of AUs to new methods of teaching.

CEO Report

Interim CEO Stephanie Price updated the Board on operational and budget planning for 2018, provided a status update on initiatives funded from reserves, and provided an update on September activities. The proposed 2018 budget will be presented to Board for approval at a December teleconference.

CEO Group Report

Ann English, Chair of the CEO Group, presented a report of their recent meeting. The group discussed the establishment of interim targets for 30 by 30. Considering that it appears the percentage of female students entering HEIs greatly exceeds the percentage getting licensed, Engineers Canada was asked to provide more data about the percentage of women enrolling, graduating and getting licensed. The group noted positive actions and activity on the Accreditation Improvement Project and feel that the work plan of the AU Task Force is a positive step forward.

Qualifications Board Report

Dennis Peters, chair of the Qualifications Board presented a report to the Board, including an update on the 2017-19 work plan, an update on the Guideline on the Assessment of non-CEAB Applicants, and recommendations on the review of QB's Terms of Reference. The QB requested an increase in members at large by 2 individuals, which was moved and carried by the Board.

Accreditation Board Report

Wayne MacQuarrie, Chair of the Accreditation Board, Lynn Villeneuve, Practice Lead, Accreditation, and Bob Dony, Chair of the AU Task Force provided a report to the Board, including: the Accreditation Board and what it does; Accreditation Board accomplishments between May and September 2017; Accreditation Improvement Program status; and, a presentation of the AU Task Force workplan.

NCDEAS Update

Julia Biedermann presented on behalf of NCDEAS Chair, Ishwar Puri, conveying that members are committed to highest quality graduates and proud of their curriculum. While a graduate attributes approach has increased workload, it is a better way to measure and they are confident that efforts will streamline as familiarity increases. NCDEAS is pleased to be working with AU Task Force to address issues on AUs, and to do it on such an aggressive timeline. The accreditation pilot project, using the European credit transfer system, has just begun. Details will be provided as they become available. As Engineers Canada explores a reduced Board size, the NCDEAS wants to ensure a meaningful relationship is sustained, and one which goes beyond accreditation.

Governance Report

Sarah Devereaux, Chair of the Governance Committee, presented two motions to the Board: 1) establishing a series of reporting requirements for the Governance, Strategic Planning, and Consultation Project throughout 2018; and 2) requesting authorization to draw on reserve funds to proceed with the Governance, Strategic Planning, and Consultation Project into 2018. Both motions were carried. Board members expressed concern regarding the scope and cost of the project, but supported its goals and intended outcomes.

CFES Report

Zenon Kripki, President of the Canadian Federation of Engineering Students presented an update to the Board, including a summary of recent events. He gave an overview of key areas of activity, such as: mirroring Engineers Canada's 30 by 30 goal with a focus on student enrolment; sustainability working group to provide input for national stances and their conference; and deeper understanding of issues relating to student workload and mental health, teaching quality, academic integrity and experiential versus traditional learning. CFES is also engaging with the Coalition of International Engineering Student Organizations.

CEO search

The Search Committee has been working with a recruiting firm and has reached out to over 140 contacts to solicit interest and referrals. Engineers Canada has been asked questions about governance approach and status, relocation costs, and bilingualism requirements. The long list reviews and interviews are expected to occur in November.

September 2017 Open Forum and Board Meeting Summary

Materials are on the [Board Meeting Microsite](#) and [Engineers Canada website](#), as linked in item titles.

Presidents' Group Update

Katherine MacLeod, Chair of the Presidents Group presented an update of discussions by the group. The memo on affinity revenue was discussed and no other information is requested at this time. They also discussed the Governance, Strategic Planning, Consultation Project, options for orienting new members of the group, approaches to reviewing and prioritizing challenges facing regulators, and how this group can be used as a means of bringing issues to Engineers Canada for further exploration.

[Next Meeting](#)

Board teleconference: TBD, December 2017

Board Meeting: February 26-28, 2018, Ottawa, ON

Open Forum

Part 1: Mihaly v. APEGA

As counsel for APEGA, James Casey, Q.C. provided an overview of the case of Mihaly v. APEGA, including lessons learned, and suggestions to regulators on reducing the risk of a human rights complaint from internationally educated applicants. The outcome of the case provided strong endorsement of APEGA's system to evaluate credentials of internationally educated individuals as well as its public protection function. Human rights complaints are an area of high risk for regulators and the long period of time it can take to resolve complaints can lead to escalating damages. Suggested that regulators establish their own human rights tribunal process which can prevent appeals to human rights commissions based on issue estoppel and abuse of process. Important to challenge the dominant social narrative of the underemployed international professional which can be misleading in these cases.

Part 2: Student mental health

Adam Samson of the Québec Confederation for Engineering Student Outreach QCESO and Zenon Kripki of CFES provided an overview of findings of QCESO's mental health survey of engineering students in Quebec as well as a status update of CFES' national survey. Key findings include:

- 76% of respondents say the stress of their engineering education is high or very high
- Workload (73%), performance pressure (68%), and exams (66%) were the most common triggers of stress
- 54% of students consider their workload excessive

CFES is fielding a similar survey nationally in September and October with a focus on issues of workload, teaching quality, co-ops, and language electives.

Part 3: Engineers Canada government relations strategy

Joey Taylor, Raymond Mantha, and Jeanette Southwood provided a situational analysis of Parliament Hill, and discussed Engineers Canada's public policy objectives, key initiatives, and the role of the Public Affairs Advisory Committee in developing national position statements. Engineers Canada finds itself well positioned to capitalize on Budget 2018 after a successful year of engaging with ministers, elected officials and public servants. Key priorities for the next 12 months including promoting investment in infrastructure climate vulnerability assessments, improving current maternity and parental leave system, and supporting the inclusion of professional engineers across federal departments.



September 2017 Open Forum and Board Meeting Summary

Materials are on the [Board Meeting Microsite](#) and [Engineers Canada website](#), as linked in item titles.