

**SECEDHA 2021 Spring Meeting**  
**April 15, 2021**  
**virtual meeting**

1. SECEDHA President Hulya Kirkici (U. South Alabama) called the meeting to order at 2:01 pm CDT. (The list of attendees and their affiliations is attached as an appendix.)
2. Mike Johnson (U. Kentucky) conducted a poll to rank topics for discussion. The top-ranked topics were graduate enrollment, budget, and undergraduate enrollment. On graduate enrollment, most chairs reported a long-term downward trend in international applicants for graduate school. Hai Xiao (Clemson) noted an increase in domestic graduate students at Clemson from active recruiting of students into a BS/MS program then faculty recruiting those students into the PhD program. On budget impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, some reported a slight budget decrease or lost faculty positions but no dramatic cuts. On undergraduate enrollment, the general trends are a slight increase in computer engineering enrollment and a slight decrease in electrical engineering enrollment.
3. Chrysanthe Preza (U. Memphis) facilitated a discussion on increasing diversity and fostering inclusion in ECE. Key points included: biases in teaching evaluations of female faculty; alternatives to student teaching evaluations such as self-reflection as part of an annual performance review; highlighting the importance of diversity in teams and in design from introductory courses to senior design; research on teaching students from underrepresented groups to that they will be more likely to succeed.
4. John Harris (U. Florida) guided a discussion on determining teaching load for each faculty member that found no universal practice but pointed out a variety of considerations. These include: enrollment in courses, whether the course includes a lab, research activity, not having Assistant Professors teach large classes, and online teaching.
5. ABET virtual visits

Mark McKinney (Citadel) – Received many questions in advance of the visit, about 20 questions per week. PEOs were a focus of evaluators.

Chrysanthe Preza – Dynamics of the evaluation team were more difficult because the team members were remote.

Zhihua Qu (U. Central Florida) – Coordination took more effort than a normal visit. Received many questions early from one of the two evaluators, mostly to clarify material in the reports. Safety was a focus of evaluators.

6. Zihua Qu conducted the SCEE meeting. The call for proposals for SCEE grants has been issued. Starting July 1, Mark Nelms (Auburn) will be the new SCEE secretary, and the account has been transferred from U. Central Florida to Auburn.
7. Hulya Kirkici expects to be able to host the fall SECEDHA meeting at U. South Alabama. Tentative dates are October 28 and 29.
8. The meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm CDT.

See minutes of previous meetings at: <http://secedha.org/meetings/>

Minutes submitted by Jerry Trahan, SECEDHA Secretary.

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