Fall 2015 School of ECS
Breakout Session on EML

Attended: Ken Van Treuren, Bill Jordan, Joe Cestari, Mark Cannata, Don Roberts, Rick Tullis, Bill Mearse

1. Started the meeting talking about the need for ECS to be looking not only at contact with industry but also with small businesses and start-ups.

2. Ken Van Treuren gave a 15 minute PPT which introduced EML and ECS's involvement with KEEN. Three questions were asked.

3. First Question: What Characteristics of new hires (ME, ECE, CS) do you desire?
   a. Joe Cestari discussed the need for "Psychology Education" which loosely translates to people skills. He also talked about the need for students to realize that the problem solving skills could be applied to any problem.
   b. Rick Tullis described the need for discipline and its application for students keeping a notebook of ideas.
   c. Social media was identified as important for students and business to understand.
   d. The following were also listed.
      1) Fundamental Technical Skills
      2) Crossdisciplinary Skills
      3) Understanding Business Value
      4) Personal Attributes (Initiative, ideas, adaptability, leadership)
   e. A discussion of training programs at each company was useful to identify what these programs "added" to the new hires (legal issues, company culture, interpersonal skills, etc.)
   f. Ken Van Treuren summed up the characteristics discussion with the following topics
      1. Problem solving in general
      2. Adaptability
      3. Leadership
      4. Business Sense
      5. Technical Communication
      6. Hands on Skill - experience
      7. Giving/Service
4. The Second and Third Questions were addressed Simultaneously. What can you do to help the School of ECS achieve this outcome? What does the School of ECS need from you?

   a. Rick Tullis would like to initiate a 10 student group to mentor on innovative ideas. He has had great success with this at Capstone Mechanical.

   b. War Stories - Board members can come to classes, professional society meetings, and panels to tell wisdom learned over the years. This could be once a month or so and would only be to groups of maximum 20 students.

   c. Graduates - Alumni within 5 years of graduating should be brought back to ECS to share experiences.

   d. Business School involvement - this should be actively pursued.

   e. Resources off Baylor Campus - MakerSpace work area in town. Chamber has incubator space for students if they want to utilize this.

   f. Resources on Baylor. We need more space in Baylor for innovation/creativity

   g. Senior Design Involvement - More is needed with the Board. Some companies have a 1/5 -2 year cycle for funding. Also, some companies might want to donate to the program without a project. Be bold and continue to ask all the Board for involvement.

   j. Topical Discussions - like Case Studies however these would be from the Board of Advocates experiences.

   k. KEENternships - have the Board of Advocates give opportunities for faculty to intern at their companies.

   l. Funding - make a list of projects and monetary needs. Keep this in accordance with the company funding cycles.