

1. Meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM by Cathy Williams.
2. Attendance  
Voting members present: Cathy Williams, Sanaz Aghazadeh, Lauren Cardenas, Maribel Dietz, Christopher Gregg, Ipsita Gupta, Michelle Osborn, Julie Rollins, Olivia Lucas, Len Aparcar,  
Not present: John Church, Kanchan Maiti  
Proxies: none  
Non-voting members present: Emmett Brown, Jaqueline Bach, Clay Benton, Meridia Sanders, Erin Schell, Tyrslai Williams-Carter  
Guests: Marwa Hassan, CoE, Roberto Champney, CoE, Dagoberto Diaz CoE,
3. No public comments were made.
4. Minutes of the Oct. 24, 2024, meeting were approved.
5. Announcement that the Gulf Scholars proposal had been approved all the way up.
6. First reading of Proposal from the College of Engineering to add new admissions criteria. Part of a larger restructuring called “pathways” to increase retention and improve six-year graduation rates across the eleven different engineering majors.  
Marwa Hassan from the College of Engineering provided a summary and rationale. The following is a short version of the summary and committee discussion. Normally students enter the College of Engineering at the end of Freshmen year. Current admission standard is a GPA of 2.0. (except for Petroleum Engineering which is 2.8). These are LSU cumulative GPAs after 24 hour freshman year. Raising entry requirements will insure better retention. Construction management, Industrial, and Electrical would remain at 2.0 GPA. Petroleum would remain at 2.8 GPA. Biological, Civil, Computer Science, and Environmental would change to 2.5 GPA. Chemical and Computer Engineering would change to 2.7 GPA. Mechanical would change to 2.8. [two not-yet-approved new programs, Construction Engineering would be at 2.5 GPA and Engineering management would be at 2.0 GPA. In addition to the changes in GPA requirements, there are also some changes to the required minimum grade in some specific courses as part of the new admissions standards. A “C” or better would now be required in Math 1550 (Calculus I), Math 1552 (Calculus II), Physics 2110 (Particle Mechanics), and/or CSC 1350 (Computer Science for majors) for some of the majors as outlined in the proposal on table 5.  
A question was asked about just how indicative these specific freshman year courses were in terms of retention and graduation. Marwa responded by stating very high DFW rates in these courses and students attempting them multiple times. Once in the major Engineering students leave the university at higher rates than other students, with between 10-20% leaving without graduating. In a meeting with current Engineering students, they too were supportive to the changes. Questions were asked about advising and movement between the different engineering majors. Marwa said that closer and earlier advising were also areas that were being discussed, including ways of diverting students into other engineering major and/or possibly adding an overall CoE freshman required “Intro to Engineering” course possibly as a colloquium presented by industry leaders. Many departments have intro courses at the department level but there is no course that is College-wide. Marwa also mentioned pilot summer programs using ALEKS to identify students in need. Marwa noted that in Mechanical Engineering there is a 40% graduation rate and the students who are leaving the major are not graduating at all.
7. Meeting adjourned at 3:59 pm.