

**MINUTES**  
**EDUCATION ADVISORY MEETING**  
**TEXAS BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS**  
**UT Thompson Conference Center**  
**2405 Robert Dedman Drive**  
**Room 2.102**  
**Austin, Texas 78758**  
**June 6, 2014 - 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

**CALL TO ORDER.** The Education Advisory Committee meeting was called to Order by James “Jim” Nelson, Ph.D., P.E., Chair at 10 am at the UT Thompson Conference Center located at 2405 Robert Dedman Drive in Austin, TX.

**1. Introduction of Committee Members and Welcome Visitors.**

All members present introduced themselves.

**2. Public Comment.** None.

**ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION**

**3. Approve the minutes from May 31, 2013, Education Advisory Committee Meeting.**

The Committee unanimously approved the minutes.

**4. Update on Issues from the Board.**

▪ **TBPE Update.**

Mr. Kinney reported on ongoing agency activities.

▪ **New DED and Director of Licensing.**

Mr. Kinney reported on the hiring of the Board’s new Deputy Executive Director, Mr. David Howell, P.E., and the new Director of Licensing, Mr. Robert Opiela, P.E.

▪ **Law & Rule Changes.**

Mr. Kinney reviewed the law and rule changes that were published in the last newsletter.

▪ **Criminal History Record Check Update.**

The CHRC became effective January 2014. The committee discussed the process for getting CHRC completed in a timely manner and options for completing the process by faculty, including on-campus fingerprinting by the vendor.

▪ **Computer Based Testing Update.**

Mr. Kinney reported that the FE exam converted to computer based testing in January 2014. No problems had been encountered so far. Advantages include increase options for taking the exam (location and dates) and exam results are reported in 7-10 days which is faster than before. NCEES will continue to provide summary reports to schools at 6 month intervals.

▪ **Software Engineering Update.**

▪ **International Licensure Update.**

Mr. Kinney reported that TBPE has current Memoranda of Understanding with Canada, Australia, Mexico, Japan, and is working on an agreement with South Korea.

▪ **Policy Advisory Opinion Update.**

Mr. Kinney reminded committee members that policy advisories are posted on our website. He reviewed the process for submitting a Policy Advisory to the Board. If anyone has any questions, please contact C.W. Clark, P.E., Director of Compliance & Enforcement.

▪ **PE/FE Exam Statistics.**

Mr. Kinney reviewed the statistics from the PE and FE exams exhibit with Committee members.

**5. Strategic Plan Update.**

Chairman Nelson and Mr. Kinney led a brief strategic planning brainstorming session with attendees.

What are some issues you see coming up in the next year? 2 years? By 2020?

- Working to increase number of engineering graduates.
- Faculty Licensure

What are some suggestions on ways TBPE could address these issues or generally improve?

- No suggestions at this time.

**6. Discussion of Agency Visibility and Outreach Efforts.**

How can TBPE communicate better with your constituency / stakeholders? (Methods / Messages)

- Newsletter – send electronically or make it available electronically. Send link or e-copy to Deans to distribute to students.
- Also e-Newsletters; share with deans to distribute to students
- Engineering Career Fairs – TBPE and other PEs can get involved. Create speaker’s bureau
- Create a student publication – like a short newsletter or things going on that students could be interested in.

Distribute electronically. Include a 1-page electronic version to put on electronic message boards around campus. Include links to Board info and pages aimed at students.

- Contact Deans for list of student chapters and student organizations. Distribute things directly to these groups. (LK – get Dorothy to do this 2x/year (fall, spring?))
- Create an FAQ aimed at college students – CBT, licensure basics, info that THEY would care about.
- Talk to engineering department heads as a GROUP. Create a council / panel / meeting of just the civil heads to get them involved. THEN move on to other disciplines as we move forward.
- Note to include / contact TTI at TAMU (Texas Transportation Institute at Texas A&M)
- Create speaker’s bureau / database of PEs as speakers, contacts, and mentors

How can the advisory committees / members help with this communication?

- Provide info on student groups
- Electronic versions of posters / other handouts
- Students want info on benefits of PE
  - o Salaries / increases / value in \$
  - o Marketability
  - o Hiring
- It was mentioned that TAMU was encouraging all graduates to get on LinkedIn. Maybe TBPE can get involved with that.
- Electronic ads / posters on how to connect with TBPE via social media – get them the Facebook / Twitter / LinkedIn info as a handout / send out to students!

**7. Discussion of Faculty Licensure.**

Dr. Nelson reviewed the exhibit with Committee members. He added that he will be meeting with the appropriate contact persons from engineering societies.

**8. Issues for discussion from Committee members.**

None.

**9. Issues for discussion for the Joint Education, Government, and Industry Meeting.**

Faculty Licensure.

**10. Issues for consideration at next scheduled meeting.**

None.

**11. What can the Coordinating Board do to assist us increase the number of engineering graduates who go on to become licensed engineers.**

Committee members discussed the possibility of scholarship from the Board or some type of incentive.

**12. Adjourn.**

Meeting was adjourned at 12 pm.

Date Advisory Committee approved minutes as submitted:	June 26, 2015
Date Licensing Committee accepted minutes:	August 26, 2015
Date Board accepted minutes:	August 27, 2015