Planning and Development Committee

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ECE Retreat
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ECE Plan 2000-2005

• Mission
The ECE Department prepares men and women to lead productive and rewarding professional lives at the forefront of Engineering in the 21st century and pursues research to advance the state-of-the-art in Electrical and Computer Engineering and Engineering Education.

• Vision
The ECE Department aspires to be ranked first in the Delaware Valley and among the top 25 national departments.
Objectives 2000-2005

• Reinvigorate Graduate Program
• Redefine Research Areas
• Increase Research funding
• Increase PhD production
Key Statistics

- PhD Enrollment per Faculty
  - 1999: 0.4; 2002: 1.5; Goal 5. *Goal Valid*

- PhD Awards per Faculty
  - 1999: 0.3; 2002: 0.3; Goal 0.5. *Goal Valid*

- Research Expenditures per Faculty
  - 1999: $118k; 2002: $330k; Goal 350k; *Goal Valid*
Comments About Statistics

• Liars, Damn Liars, and Statisticians
• Large part of research funding very fragile
• Is our reputation as good as it should be?
New Direction

• The University is developing a Strategic Plan

• In a nutshell
  ▪ Increase undergraduate student body
    • Improve retention
    • Improve graduation rate
  ▪ Graduate MS programs a revenue source
  ▪ Graduate PhD programs must boost Drexel’s reputation.
    • External funds to support cost
    • Increase quality of students and research
Our Response

- We will revise our Strategic Plan
- ???
- Undergraduate
  - ECE has led by introducing new programs, retention initiatives, course evaluations
  - Continue our efforts
- Research
  - Research expenditure goals have been met
  - We have implemented improvements in student recruitment
  - Some parts of the department have not shared in the growth
Unfinished Business

• ECE Department Graduate Fellowship
  ▪ Part of Strategic Plan
  ▪ ECE Faculty Endowed Fellowship Fund has been established with Faculty Contributions
  ▪ We need help

• ECE Endowed Chairs
  ▪ Stu Personick, holder of Colehower Chair needs to be replaced
  ▪ Partial endowment for PECO chair has been obtained
  ▪ Additional chair in Strategic Plan
Topics for Discussion

- Research work at Department
- Need to develop an ‘image’
- Content should come from Faculty