Meeting Minutes
Executive Committee of the AFSE
February 2, 2024

Present: Xiao Wang (chair), Dianne Hansford (secretary),
                Brian Atkinson, Treavor Boyer, Nancy Cooke, Xiangyang Dong, Heather Emady,
                Shenghan Guo, Vikram Kodibagkar, Anthony Lamanna, Hyunglae Lee, Pitu Mirchandani,
                Guoliang Xue, Yanchao, Zhang Yong-Hang Zhang

Guest: Kelli Haren

1. <u>Approval of minutes</u>

   Motion: Approve minutes from January 19, 2024. The motion was unanimously approved.

2. <u>Dean's Dissertation Award</u>
   The EC reviewed the current announcement for the purpose of improving its clarity and
   ensuring the nomination process is fair to all PhD candidates.
   - May a student who has been awarded a PhD be nominated?
     The current language states, "Nominees must be a Ph.D. candidate at the date of
     submission of the nomination." This was intended to be a minimum requirement, not to
     exclude those awarded a PhD.
   - PhD candidates scheduled to graduate in the fall semester are provided two
     nominations periods, whereas spring semester graduates are only provided one
     opportunity.
     It was agreed that new language will be drafted that clearly defines the two nomination
     windows so all students, independent of their graduation date, have the same
     opportunity to be nominated.
   - The current announcement does not exclude a student from being nominated twice.
     Candidates can be nominated only once.
   - When a student is eligible to be nominated should be more clearly defined.
     The debate centered around "candidate" versus "scheduled to graduate".
     Nominees must be a Ph.D. candidate or awardee or at the date of submission of the
     nomination.

   Dianne will draft a new announcement, share it with the committee, and then a vote on the
   new language will take place at the next meeting.

   Kelli will prepare an email to the school directors informing them that PhD awardees may be
   nominated this semester.

3. ASU and OpenAI Collaboration
   Continue discussions around OpenAI and opportunities for the recently announced partnership.
   Questions for Executive Committee discussion:
   1. What are innovative uses of the partnership that would help faculty? Specific ideas that would inform an FSE proposal are strongly encouraged.
   2. What questions do you have about the partnership and potential uses?

   SCAI would like to take leadership on this task. Pitu will coordinate a request to SCAI faculty for input.
   "ASU AI Innovation Challenge" request for proposals was communicated to faculty this week by Jayson Johnson.
   We will continue discussions on this topic in our next meeting.

Next Meeting
Friday, March 1, 2024
12:00 - 1:00pm in BYENG 660