

## **Initiative Proposal**

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**Initiative:** Lunch with Deans

**Initiative Chair & Email:** Shreyans Ranka (sranka2@uiuc.edu)

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### **Initiative Description:**

- This initiative is aimed at giving all students in the college of engineering an opportunity to meet and interact with the different deans from the college of engineering. The lunches will be held twice a month. Students will be able to talk about current issues, give their feedback/opinions, find out details about administrative affairs, the direction the college is heading, future goals, etc.

### **Current state of issue & current solution:**

- Apart from DSAC and select few organizations, students have no direct means of interacting with deans. Even though many students may want to meet deans, it is extremely hard to schedule since the deans are generally very busy.

### **Proposed solution:**

- The lunches would be held bi-monthly, with a different dean attending every meeting
- The lunches will be informal in a group of around 20 students
- There will be some sort of a structure to this meeting which will be controlled by a designated student moderator

### **Resolution:**

- The initiative is aimed at increasing student-dean interaction. This will help students become more aware of the college activities as well as the general direction in which the college is heading. It will instill a sense of belonging in students, many of whom may feel disconnected from the college.

### **Associated costs and expenses for implementation:**

- The costs for this initiative will be minimal since the college only has to pay for the lunch of group of about twenty students.
- Also, deans should have the time to go to lunch since in all likelihood their turn would not come more than twice a semester. Thus, it requires a low time commitment.

### **Proposed Solution for Sustainability:**

There seem to be only two viable options for sustainability.

- The first is to start a RSO which will work under Ms. Mary Kappes. The organization will schedule all the lunches for the semester, decide on the agenda and will designate a student moderator to every meeting. The organization would need a maximum of three people since it would not have a lot of work to do.
- The second is to pitch the idea to DSAC and see if they would like to hold and moderate such meetings.

**Estimated Timeline:**

- January: Meet with Dean Tucker and ascertain administrative backing for this project.
  - February: Decide on the structure and general topics of discussion for the lunches. Begin marketing the idea and create awareness among students. Also, look for student moderator willing to take up the initiative.
  - March: Determine the schedule and start the bi-monthly lunches.
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College of Engineering, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
201 Engineering Hall, MC-272 • 1308 West Green Street • Urbana, IL 61801  
Telephone: 217-244-3824 • Fax: 217-244-4974  
<http://ei.engr.uiuc.edu>