General Meeting Notes February 26, 2013

1. General Announcements
	1. Dublin Dash Meeting in 2 weeks: March 12th
2. Doctor David Dixon on his trip in Germany
	1. German university Differences
		1. USA System
			1. Bachelor: 4 years🡪 Industry/Government
			2. Masters: 2 years
			3. PhD: 2-5years
		2. Bologna Process
			1. Transformed education system in Europe to give more student mobility
			2. Gave commonality in what a chemical engineer is and what they do
			3. Similarities to US system
				1. Has a Diplom-Ing which is equivalent to a masters: 5 years
				2. Discipline Qualification Frameworks similar to ABET
				3. Educates engineers on global issues
			4. Differences from US system
				1. Most German engineering students consider the MS as professional engineering degree
				2. Has a National Qualification Framework over all disciplines and universities
				3. ECTS is based on amount of time students spend working on that class instead of faculty contact time
				4. German universities are free
				5. More European students study abroad than USA students
	2. Overseas Experiences
		1. 3 years in Germany on active duty
		2. Sabbatical (2009-2010) in Germany at Technische Universitat Darmstadt
		3. Bikes are used by a lot of people
		4. Discussions in class with American students are held in English
		5. Played soccer in January
		6. Visited concentration camp Dachau
	3. Study abroad opportunities
		1. Germany
			1. ACS REAU
			2. EPS- European Project Semester: semester of international design for students in engineering, science, and marketing
				1. Denmark’
				2. Netherlands
				3. Germany
				4. Spain
				5. Norway
				6. Poland
			3. Fulbright
			4. DAAD
			5. Humboldt
			6. Introduction to German Engineering
				1. Weeklong design project
				2. Work in multi-disciplinary teams
				3. Taught in English
				4. Guided tour of German firms
				5. Cultural tours on weekends
				6. Travel 26 May-14 July 2013
		2. Elsewhere
		3. Facebook friend SDSMT Study Abroad to find out about more opportunities
		4. Ivanhoe International Center-Study Abroad for more information on studying abroad
	4. Doctor Patrick Gilcrease on his sabbatical in Australia
		1. Background information
			1. Established as a penal colony
			2. Mostly desert interior
			3. Mining, ranching/farming
			4. Coal and natural gas
		2. Microbial Coalbed Methane
			1. Export terminal based on Queensland CBM production
			2. Surat basin with access to native groundwater samples with coal fines key
			3. Collaborated with coal geologists, geochemists, reservoir engineers, and molecular biologists
		3. University of Queensland
			1. Liked
				1. Great research collaborators
				2. Library & IT
				3. Able to walk to campus
				4. Outdoor dining with happy hour on campus
			2. Disliked
				1. Crowded classes
				2. Safety bureaucracy

Safety audits take 4- 8 weeks

* + - * 1. HVAC- very hot in summer and very cold in winter
				2. Run-down ChE labs
				3. Expensive parking
		1. Brisbane
			1. Liked
				1. Clean
				2. Good transportation for traveling downtown shopping
				3. Mild winter
			2. Disliked
				1. Hot and humid summer
				2. Terrible transportation during rush hours
				3. Prices high due to labor unions
				4. Few businesses open after 5 due to labor cost restrictions
		2. Australia
			1. Liked
				1. Spoke English
				2. Beautiful continent
				3. Safe
				4. Cheap domestic flights
				5. Low population
			2. Dislikes
				1. Convenience
				2. High labor costs
				3. Dangerous animals
				4. No Mexican or BBQ food
		3. Andrew LIveris talk
			1. Labor laws prohibitive
			2. Convert natural gas to plastics instead of exporting it
			3. Squandering mineral wealth, need more value added