MINUTES -

- Approved minutes will be posted online, along with the prior agenda
  http://bioeng.berkeley.edu/administration/exec.php

- 1st Year Review & Year End Poster Session Follow up: Discussion of students feedback and suggestions from these meetings included changes to the program seminar, although due to UCB classroom scheduling restrictions time changes couldn’t happen until next year. BEAST will survey the 1st years regarding time and format preferences; the also the possibility of including rotation project description talks. Incoming 1st years will be encouraged to meet with their Graduate Advisor within the first 4 weeks, Peer Advisors will contact the incoming students. The BEAST wiki is being reviewed and may go to a Google site. The possibility of adding a BEAST administrative email alias in addition to the current BEAST email. Students would like to see more faculty participation in the rotation poster sessions.

- Admission Interest Areas: Amy Herr analyzed the application interest area and the actually area a student ends up in to discover 40% of the students change their original interest area. A sub-committee was formed, including Amy Herr, Gerard Marriott, John Kurhanewicz, and Joey Wilson the charge is to bring recommendations for changes to the Admissions Review process. Several suggestions were discussed including possibly using blind interest areas for reviewers; how to do the cuts to get to the top 250 applications; perhaps a small committee to review the cut applications; possibly 2 votes and you’re out.

- Qual Exam suggested guidelines for structure were discussed. These will be drafted and emailed to the committee for review and additional discussion, once finalized will be distributed to BEAST and update online in the BioE Graduate Student Handbook.

- Executive Committee Election, Run-Off Election: The election resulted in Sanjay Kumar filling the UCB vacancy, and Shuvo Roy filing the UCSF vacancy, but the 3 wild card vacancy was split, therefore a run-off election will be held.

- Newsletter electronically distributed, Now online!!! Many thanks to Shuvo Roy for taking the lead and Pam Reynolds for publishing on the web http://bioeng.berkeley.edu/gradnews/spring/2011/graduate/newsletter.php

- MSTP program funding inequity was resolved, BioE will have similar MSTP student funding support as other programs. 1st year MSTP students will be added to the BEAST email alias to start their integration into BioE.

- UC System Wide Bioengineering Symposium, UCSB June 13-15, SF JGGB was able to sponsored students to attend thanks to the SF JGGB IFM funding. The program was well represented, boosted the UCSF/UCB BioE image and BioE student Tim Downing won the Grad Challenge. Student participation will be encouraged in future UC system wide events. Next year UCB will host this event June 20-23, 2012, see Song Li for more information

- New Student Orientation Tuesday, August 23 @ UCSF for all BioE Save the date! Advisors and faculty encouraged to participate.

- Bios on the BioE web need to be updated

- Conference/Retreat Oct 21-23, 2011 Granlibakken, North Lake Tahoe, Save the date!
An Alumni Panel is scheduled, 3 presentation sessions are schedule, keynote speakers are being invited, nightly poster sessions with awards are scheduled, the t-shirt competition is underway and registration will open soon,