FOSTERING AND DEVELOPING A SENSE OF COMMUNITY BETWEEN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING FACULTY AND STAFF

PROJECT DESCRIPTION
Improve communications between faculty & staff. Support & accept different cultures. Connect faculty & staff through various events. Promote understanding & respect. Share different perspectives & experiences.

PROJECT ACTIONS
Time commitments and willingness to participate in various activities to bring faculty & staff together. Example: Lunches, social events, tours, combining 1 or 2 faculty/staff meetings each semester. Reach out to other Engineering Schools for mentoring / suggestions on how they connect.

PROJECT IMPACT
• Discover each unique contribution.
• Develop stronger working relationship and a sense of belonging.
• Encourage a climate of positive communication.
• Breakdown barriers/misconceptions that separate “them (faculty)” and “us (staff)”.
• Share different perspectives and experiences.

FUTURE STEPS
 Set up team: Involve ME Staff Advisory Committee, Mechanical Engineering Leadership Team, and Mechanical Engineering Cabinet
 Encourage ideas/suggestions from the team
 Initiate one idea

LESSONS LEARNED
 How to start the conversation
 Feels like a disconnect
 Lack of knowledge of what each staff member does to contribute