Friday May 4, 2007 – MIE Conference Room

7:45 a.m. Breakfast

8:30 a.m. Introduction of Dr. Mario A. Rotea
• Vision for Board
• What Dr. Rotea expects from Board
• Where can the Board add the most value

Sundar Krishnamurty
Mario Rotea

9:15 a.m. Expectations of MIE Industrial Advisory Board
• Introduction of MIE Board
• Status of Board
• Minutes of previous meeting – October 11, 2006

Paul Washburn

9:45 a.m. Break

10:00 a.m. Curriculum Update
• ABET status

Paul Washburn
Jim Rinderle

11:00 a.m. Alumni relations
• Public Relations
• Fundraising
• Eastern Massachusetts event in September

John Stuart

12:00 p.m. Walk to Campus Center

12:30 p.m. Lunch @ Campus Center: Amherst Room, Room 1009, 10th Floor

2:30 p.m. Return to MIE Building
• Meet and speak with Students
  (Concurrent sessions with Grad and Undergrads)
  Undergraduates - MIE Conference room, 215 ELAB
  Graduate Students - Sonderman Library, 113 Marston

Paul Washburn

3:30 p.m. Wrap-up
• Action items and responsibilities

Paul Washburn

4:30 p.m. Reception @ Campus Center: Room 1001, 10th Floor
Mario Rotea, New Head of MIE, Also Elevated to the IEEE Grade of Fellow

The College of Engineering at UMass Amherst has announced that Mario A. Rotea will be the new head of the Mechanical and Industrial Engineering Department beginning in the spring semester of 2007. Meanwhile, Dr. Rotea has also been elevated to the Grade of Fellow in the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) for his "contributions to robust and optimal control of multivariable systems." As the organization describes this honor, "The IEEE Grade of Fellow is conferred by the Board of Directors upon a person with an extraordinary record of accomplishments in any of the IEEE fields of interest."

Dr Rotea is a professor in the School of Aeronautics and Astronautics at Purdue University in Indiana. He is currently the program director for Control Systems in the Division of Civil, Mechanical and Manufacturing Innovation, Directorate of Engineering, at the National Science Foundation (NSF) in Arlington, Virginia.

"We are very fortunate and excited that Dr. Rotea is joining us," says Dean Mike Malone. "His personal academic accomplishments are a terrific addition to the faculty. Coupled with his industrial and administrative experience, we have a fantastic addition to our academic leadership."

Among other honors earned by Dr. Rotea, he won an NSF Young Investigator Award in 1993 and was one of the top five undergraduate teachers in the School of Aeronautics and Astronautics several times.

Dr. Rotea’s research lies in the optimization and control of dynamical systems, with broad applicability to complex engineered systems. He has made fundamental contributions in estimation and control theory. Dr. Rotea has also been very active in the development and transition of advanced methods for control systems analysis and design in industry, with applications that include flutter control and vibration analysis in gas turbine engines, noise and vibration control in helicopters, and chatter suppression in machine tools. His research is currently focused on the development of health management systems for electric machines in air vehicles and the development of improved algorithms for model predictive control.

His research has appeared in more than 40 journal publications and book chapters and 60 conference publications, and his work has been cited some 700 times in scholarly journals.

Besides being a Fellow of the IEEE, Dr. Rotea is also a member of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA). In addition, he is an elected member of the Board of Governors of the IEEE Control Systems Society. He has been on the Editorial Board of the IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control and has served in the Awards Committee of the American Automatic Control Council.

Dr. Rotea’s advanced degrees include a master of science in electrical engineering and a doctorate in control science and dynamical systems from the University of Minnesota. He is scheduled to assume his new job at UMass Amherst sometime during the spring semester of 2007. (November, 2006)