ECE Undergraduate Electives Committee Meeting
Friday, November 17th, 2023

Attending: Arabshahi , Elmer, Gadre, Gupta, Hauck, Hwang, Lin, Lister, Mizell, Overly, Rudell, Thomas, Swanson

Agenda:
1. Presentation by ECE Student Advisory Council Representatives: Student Feedback and Concerns Regarding EE 476: VLSI I

Minutes of 11/1/2023: Approved

Presentation by SAC Representatives: Student Feedback and Concerns Regarding EE 476: VLSI I
([See Slides](#))
Representatives from the ECE Student Advisory Council (SAC) were asked to present feedback and concern regarding the current autumn offering of EE 476: VLSI I raised at a previous SAC town hall.
- Elmer and Gupta present slides. ([See slides](#) for details.)
- In response to the suggested added prerequisite of EE 280, Hauck believed it was completely reasonable, though would want to see what changes to EE 280 are currently being considered in the EC Core Courses Committee.
  - Rudell responded that he did not believe EE 280 would be enough background for students moving into EE 476, and that EE 331 is actually essential preparation for EE 476. His belief is that EE 331 needs revision, and could be better aligned for EE 476, and other upper-level courses.
- Elmer suggested that a course restructuring would also help, with a short amount of class time being devoted to covering background material.
- Hwang asked if the current offering the first time the instructor has taught the course, which was confirmed. He stated that, in such cases, if the TA is not extremely strong and experienced, then it is a difficult situation that often leads to bad results.
- Arabshahi stated that many of the issues raised can be addressed fairly easily, and he mentioned that he had already had discussions with the instructor. He asked if the students would approve of sending their slide deck to the instructor so he might be able to address some of their issues during the rest of the quarter, to which the students agreed, if done anonymously.
- Thomas mentioned that EE 476 has historically been a very tough course for students.

Discussion tabled to be further discussed at a subsequent meeting. Slides will be sent to the EE 476 instructor to see what might be addressed during the remainder of the quarter.