





# **2020 SLC&SWOT Report**

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#### **Presentation Agenda**

- Introduction of SLC
- SWOT Survey Results and Analysis
- SLC Activities and Contribution



## 2020 SLC&SWOT REPORT INTRODUCTION OF SLC

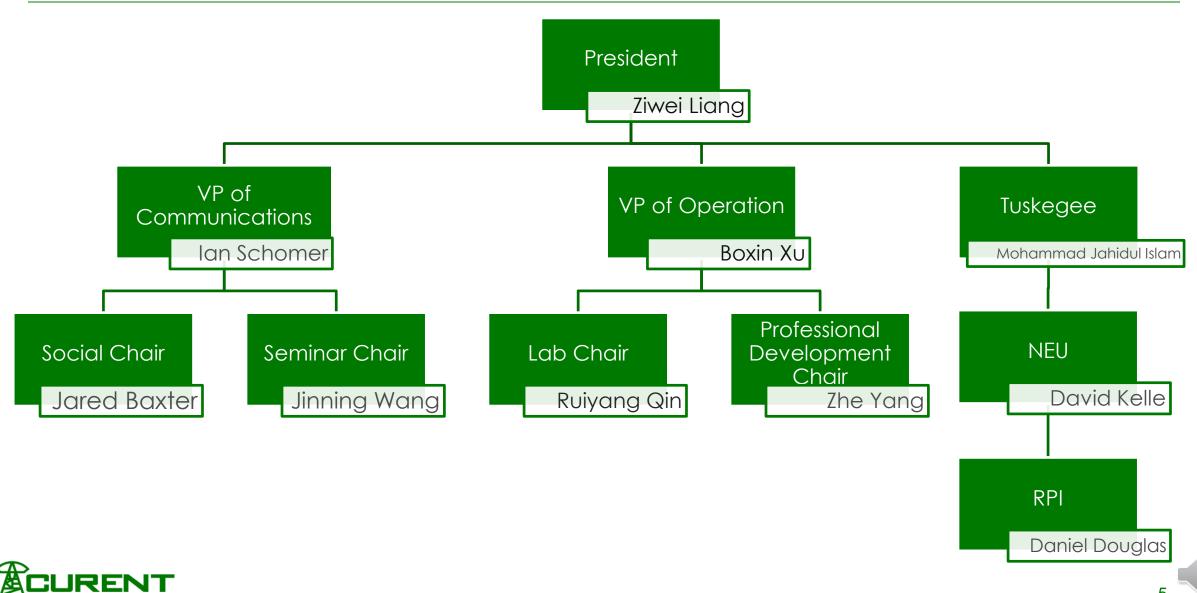


#### **Mission Statement of CURENT SLC**

The purpose of the CURENT Student Leadership Council (SLC) is to be an organization for the student community that can represent their ideas, broaden their experience, and help maintain the overall well-being of all CURENT students.



#### Year 10 CURENT SLC Committees







## 2020 SLC&SWOT REPORT SWOT SURVEY RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

#### **SWOT Structure**

## Survey

- Individual
- Quantitative
- Respond to a series of statements with level of agreement
- 73 responses total

## Focus Groups

- Collaborative
- Qualitative
- Feedback on Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats of CURENT
- 61 reponses total

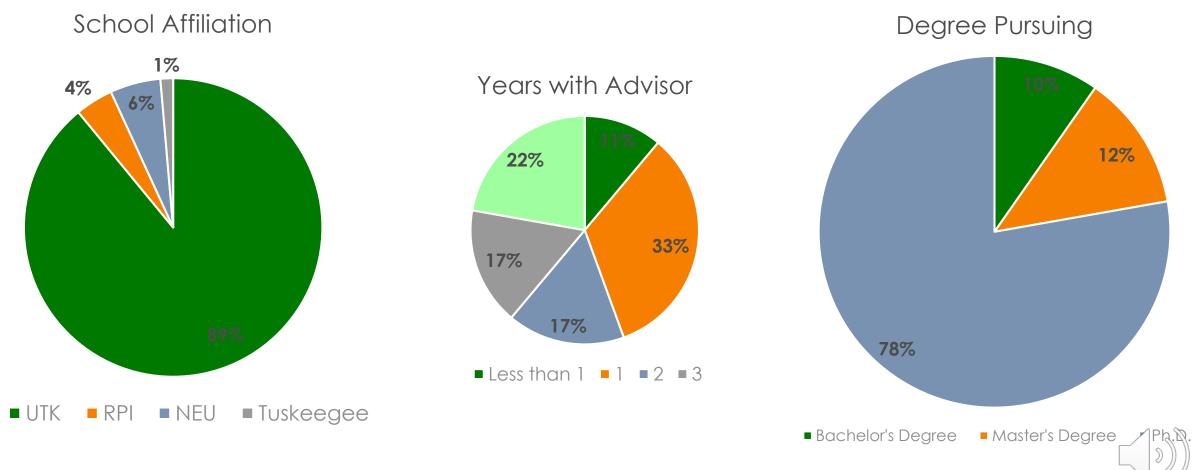
Data was collected from 9/9/2020 to 9/29/2020





### **SWOT Survey Participation**

• Answers from 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree)





### **CURENT** as an Organization

Level of Satisfaction

#### portunities ident ratio aboration area ratio utilization utilization

Diverse research opportunities Faculty/student ratio Industry collaboration Faculty/research area ratio Website utilization Social media utilization

#### Strengths

- Well funded, excellent facilities
- Diverse faculty expertise
- Breadth of comprehensive research

#### Opportunities

- Further advertise CURENT on online platforms
- CURENT-specific job fair with industry connections

focus group responses



#### **CURENT** as a Workplace



#### Strengths

- Exceptional lab management response to COVID-19
- Spacious, up-to-date workspaces
- Diverse work environment

#### Opportunities

 Apply lessons learned from working virtually to involve cross-campus involvement

#### focus group responses



#### **Individual Student Experience**



#### Strengths

- Faculty advisors have active interaction with students (even outside group)
- Site Visit provides context to research
- Seminars enrich student experience

#### Opportunities

- Continue to use Slack to encourage each other through community channels
- More resources for QEs and intn'l student orientation focus group responses

### **Acknowledging Focus Group Feedback**

- Weaknesses
  - lack of collaboration among researchers (inefficient spread of knowledge) (weak PS/PE connection)
  - Lack of supporting students academically
  - Not many seminars from power systems
- Threats
  - COVID has caused the lack of sense of community
  - COVID has caused issue on coordinating on research
  - Tougher to get research funding due to the pandemic and bad economy, because the research funding will decline





## 2020 SLC&SWOT REPORT SLC ACTIVITIES AND CONTRIBUTION



### Lab Committee Improvement

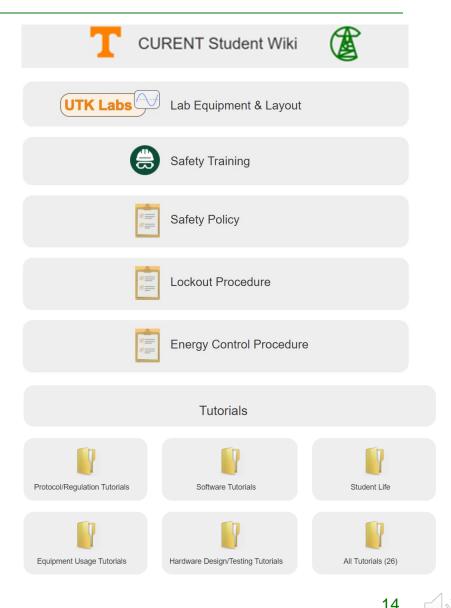
Diverse resources and good management:

• Well-organized resource website—CURENT Student Wiki:

1) Kinds of practical tutorials, including software operation, Experimental skill and so on.

2) Equipment list : make the inventory accessible to all students

- Establish on/off board system for new and graduating students
- Monthly CURENT lab newsletter
- Recruit new members for the committee for sustainable lab improvement

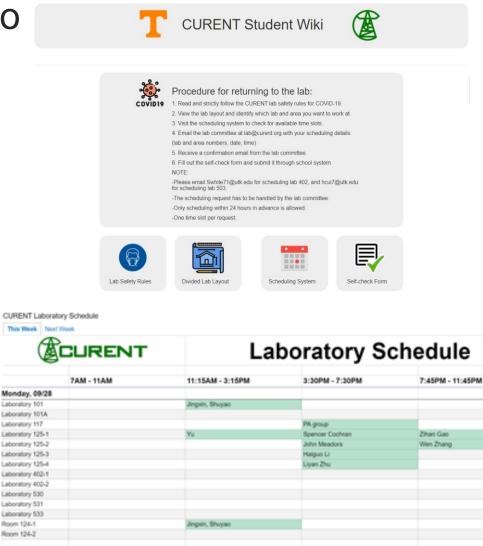




### Lab Committee Improvement

Effective and organized arrangement to keep safe during epidemic:

- Strictly enforced returning lab
  procedure
- Sophisticated arrangement and resource, i.e. lab safety rules/ Lab layout / scheduling and self-check system / separate equipment and tools
- Keep the lab and benches clean and organized during the pandemic





## **Social Engagement Efforts**

- Slack interests & hobbies channels
- Weekly virtual game nights
- Virtual events (photo contest, Netflix + chat event)
- March Madness brackets
- Coffee Break series
- Community outreach (Family Engineering Night)



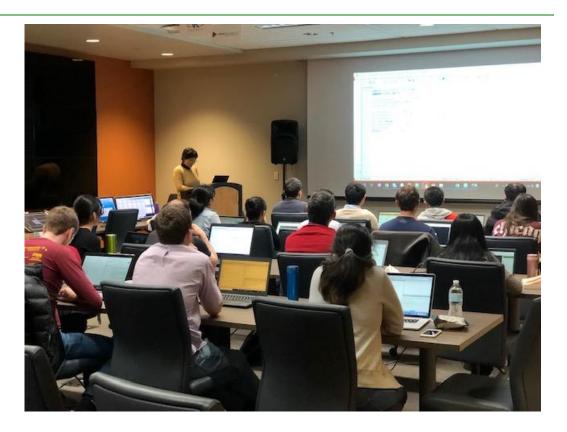






#### **Professional Development Committee**

- SLC Mentorship program continued in Fall 2019 and Spring 2020
  - 19 students including mentors and mentees participated
  - 3 first-year UTK PhD students matched with 3 RPI students in addition to their UTK mentors



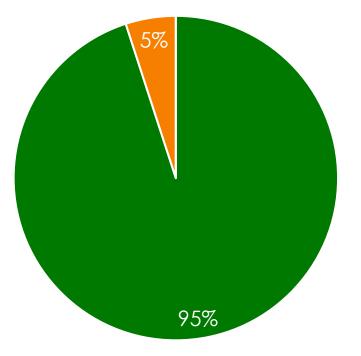
- Professional training for students
  - Full-day Culture of Inclusion training with Pope Consultant



#### **Mentorship Program**

- SLC Mentorship program has received much positive feedback
- The students have gained the experience they need from their mentors regarding academic and opportunities through frequent communication.

How often do you talk with your mentor?



- Once a week or more
- Less than once a week
- Not spoken this semester



#### **Seminar Committee**



- Continued showcase of diverse seminar topics
- Phased in more introductory workshops
- Seamless transition to virtual platform

Professional Development Non-engineering Enrichment

#### **Future Plan**

#### Academic

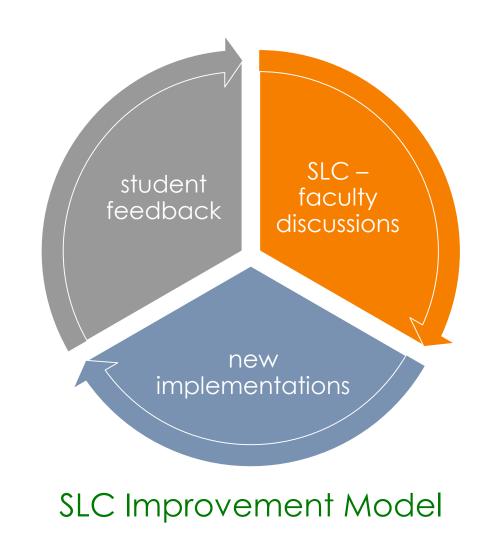
- Create expertise search platform for better collaboration
- Tailor seminar schedule based on feedback

#### Social

- More virtual/socially distanced events
- Improve Slack activity

#### Personal

 Unify wellness resources on CURENT website











#### Thank you







