# Biomedical Engine Can Be Educator Idea in the Best Educator Becoming the Best eer Development



Michele J. Grimm, Ph.D.

Wielenga Creative Engineering Endowed Professor
Departments of Mechanical Engineering
and Biomedical Engineering

#### **Our Goals as Educators**

- Student learning
- Professional satisfaction
- Personal/professional growth
- Money
- Stress-free life



# Pathway to Success



#### My Path

'86-'9<sub>4</sub>

**'94-'97** 

**'97-'02** 

'03-'10

'10-'16

**'16-'19** 

**'19-Now** 

Scientific Research



PhD Res



**Asst Prof** (ME)

Assoc Prof (BME)

Assoc Prof (BME)





**GTA** 



'98 - Grad Prog (Assoc Chair) '01 – Co-PI Whitaker SOA '02 – BME Dept (Assoc Chair)

Assoc Dean for Academic Affairs

**UG Program** Chair (BME)

**Director Transfer** Student Success Center



Mentoring Grant Assistance



#### **Developing and Following Your Path**

- Identify your goal
- Understand expectations for advancement
- Seek opportunities for development
- Choose commitments wisely
- Be open to changing paths





#### **Identify Your Goal**

- Be the best teacher you can be
- Be a great teacher and explore new ideas in education
- Balance teaching and scientific research
- Advance to leadership positions



# Understand Expectations for Advancement

- What are advancement opportunities for your position?
- What are criteria for advancement?
  - Teaching excellence
  - Research does educational research count?
  - Service
- What rank is required for leadership positions?



### Seek Opportunities for Development

- Specific to supporting your goals
- Conferences
  - ASEE
  - Discipline specific conferences with Education tracks
- Workshops
  - FIE Frontiers in Education
  - ABET
  - NETI National Effective Teaching Institute
- Fellowships
  - ELATE Executive Leadership for Academic Technology and Engineering



#### Seek Opportunities for Development

- Become an expert in (some aspect of) engineering education
  - Supports student learning
  - Makes you stand out from the crowd
  - Increases your value to your institution
- But don't get pigeonholed



#### **Choose Commitments Wisely**

- Understand how they support your goals
  - Directly
  - Indirectly
- Learn how to say "no"



#### **Turn Obstacles into Opportunities**

- Apply your engineering problem solving skills
  - Design a solution
- Don't simply accept no for an answer
  - Understand the issues to identify a path that works





#### Be Open to Changing Paths

- Evaluate opportunities that present themselves
- Take chances that seem interesting
- Determine if the new path helps you reach your goals or moves towards new goals
- Don't look back and second guess vourself



#### Let Yourself (and Others) Shine

- Support each other
- Don't be afraid to promote yourself
- Reach for opportunities
  - Be prepared for some disappointments





#### **Become Part of a Community**

- Share ideas and best practices
- Back each other up in times of stress
- Develop connections to support
  - Promotion (and tenure)
  - Identification of new opportunities





## **Open Discussion**



