

Minutes of the Spring 2010 School of Science Faculty Assembly

Friday, April 2, 2010 Lilly Auditorium, University Library

Faculty Present — Biology: Randall Roper, Gregory Anderson, Martin Bard, Bonnie Blazer-Yost, Norman Lees, Kathleen Marrs, Stephen Randall, David Stocum, John Watson, Michael Yard; **Chemistry:** Barry Muhoberac, Pratiba Varma-Nelson; **CIS:** Lingma Acheson, Shiaofen Fang, Snehasis Mukhopadhyay, Mihran Tuceryan, Yao Liang, Jiang Yu Zheng; **Earth Sc:** Jennifer Nelson; **Math Sc:** Jyotirmoy Sarkar, Jeffrey Watt, Luoging Zhu, Benzion Boukai, Raymond Chin, William Geller, Michal Misiurewicz, Leonid Rubchinsky, Zhongmin Shen, Bart Ng; **Physics:** Andrew Gavrin, Ricardo Decca; **Psychology:** Robert Bringle, Kathy Johnson, James Murphy.

1. President Sarkar called the meeting to order at 9:04am.
2. The modified agenda and the minutes of the Fall 2009 Faculty Assembly were approved unanimously. The agenda was modified to move Dean Ng's presentation to 10am.
3. Deans' Reports:

Dean Murphy announced that next Friday is Research Day on campus. The number of faculty posters is limited. A question was asked about why the VC for Research is limiting these research presentations? The answer was that there are space limitations. There are not enough time or space for all talks and posters. However, all students who applied were accepted. In total there will be 55-60 posters.

Dean Murphy pointed out that in terms of external funding the School is doing well. The funding rate has increased 19% over last year: there was over \$9 million, 61 external funds. He said he doesn't know the internal funding numbers for RSFG, PRF and Signature Centers. There is no information yet about the PRF for this year. Person in charge has changed.

He reported on the activities of the Research Committee: Primary charge: review core grants. Initially \$0.5Million allocated, which funded 4 of the 6 proposals submitted. He will request additional funds for bridge/equipment maintenance services. RFA came down from NIST. Some of the funding for the new lab building can fit in that category. Murphy submitted a letter of intent for \$15M out of the \$60M that is available. The grant proposal will go out later.

Students: RIF funds were reduced a little this year. Last year new programs got special money. This year, more money was asked for, but the request was denied. Also University Fellowship was slightly down this year. He pointed out that we need to find more creative ways to fund grad students. Dean Ng is planning on increasing graduate student funding.

There was 100% increase in MS students.

A question was asked about the research students' situation in Biology. Biology students couldn't take 698+699's and couldn't count toward PhD until they passed qualifiers. Students would have a lot of credits that wouldn't count toward degree. Purdue doesn't pay for credits, but we pay for it. The same issues exist in the Psychology department. PWL wanted students to take Purdue courses. Students take MS courses. PWL recently passed a rule that students could only count 30 credits of MS courses toward a PhD degree.

David Stocum asked if we can't you go to ICHE to resolve this matter. Dean Murphy answered that we could. ICHE wants IUPUI to apply for approval of all PhD programs. But PWL wants each department to be tied to parent department in PWL. Therefore, currently there are no uniform rules for the school.

A question was asked if PWL can actually disallow taking IU courses for PhD degree? The answer was "he can't see how."

It was pointed out that what we need is a local advocate who will take care of impact of decisions made in PWL at IUPUI. Sherry Queener agreed to be that advocate if another member is added to her staff. Dean Murphy says he is in constant contact, but PWL people sometimes don't know the rules and the impact themselves.

Dean Marrs gave a report on Student Affairs and Academic Affairs: Goals for SOS: strategically recruit, retain, and graduate high ability students. The goal is to increase science majors by 35% by 2015; increase the quality of science students; increase the number of Bepko and Plater scholars; increase diversity of science students; and increase 4-yr graduation rate from 28% to 35%.

Dean Marrs also reported that the student recruitment and student services wants to engage and support faculty in curricular innovations (Office of Academic Affairs); wants to support undergraduate research. The Honors College wants to increase and support Interdisciplinary dual major and dual degree programs.

Dean Marrs also announced a number of projects and initiatives coming up:

- Robert Noyce summer internship Summer 2010.
 - Continued Teacher excellence (project lead the way PLTW) Summer 2010.
 - Indy project SEED: high school summer research programs Summer 2010.
 - School of Science honors ceremony Apr 10
 - Commencement day: May 9
4. Rajeev Raje gave a brief summary about the plans for the upcoming School of Science Dean Search. The Search committee met on April 1 in Dean Sukhatme's office. They are currently working on a position announcement. The use of an external search firm was discussed. The

suggestion was made to use personal networks to recruit excellent people. Committee will meet with Dean Ng on Apr 21.

5. Prof. Ben Boukai gave a presentation about the budgetary affairs and the fiscal situation in the university and the General Academic units.

He summarized that there are 20 schools and more to come (honors, public health, philanthropy) on campus. These schools belong to the Health division, professional, and general academic. General academic consists of SOS, SLA, Herron, and UCOL. IUPUI administration has recently decided to convert UCOL to a support unit. Hence, it's no longer going to be an academic School.

Prof. Boukai pointed out some realities: The RCM model; multi-mission campus (health, professional, academic); large number of RC units; increasing competition for scarce resources; all academic RC units income consists of tuition, ICR, State appropriations.

He pointed out that the percent of state appropriations to admin has increased from 54% in 2002-03 to 71% in 2008-09. General academic schools get 65% of what state appropriations are allocated to them. Other schools get 90% of the state appropriations.

Many possible remedies: protest, do nothing, work within faculty governance. Entertain possibility of merging IUPUI College of Arts and Sciences.

A question was raised about why not protest and have a united voice without merging? Form an alliance and complain and protest.

Some in the audience pointed out that the review of Chancellor Bantz came out and that a minority voice was missing from the final report.

6. Dean Ng report:

Update on budget for coming year: we are in very good shape. UCOL is now a support unit. State appropriation will be distributed to all the schools on campus. The additional \$930K state appropriations will come in conjunction with a \$930K assessment. SOS has approximately \$4.2M more in the coming year in operating budget. All the increase came from an increase in enrollments and tuition. Enrollment has gone up. He pointed out that the number of majors in the School is approximately 2300.

Official position in the coming year is: no salary raise. Dean will set aside \$1.4M for new faculty and \$0.4M as contingency. Dean Ng also pointed out that the School has recovered in terms of number of Tenure Track faculty (125).

Dean Ng talked about issues relating to graduate students. He wants to double the number of graduate students to support: \$800K increase for supporting graduate students. \$1M for debt service set aside because we are financing the new building. Our current strong financial situation has been helped in part by the Trustees' recognition that tuition will play an increasing critical role in the operation of the university. Total mortgage is \$17M: \$3M cash down payment from

school cash. He completely reorganized student services. He is creating a position for grant writer for SOS. He is also creating a new position for student services.

Dean Ng reported on the progress for the recruitment for two chairs. Some of the candidates for biology are asked for second interview. Recruitment for Earth Sc chair position is under negotiation.

The new lab building is on a fast track. Timing question: finance is on fast track. Ng hopes 2 years to completion. The site is still unclear, but it is likely to be south of LD.

Commenting on low attendance at the Faculty Assembly, Dean Ng asked that participation by departments be reported as percentage of membership.

7. Committee Reports

Most committee reports were distributed at the assembly in written form as handouts.

One request was made to change to bylaws: Scholarship committee to be added to the SOS.

Dean Ng pointed out that currently the Nomination and Awards Committee ranks the candidates, and the dean's office administers the scholarships. Technology committee's charter needs to be revisited.

It was announced that the Steering Committee's Subcommittee on Administrative Review is currently conducting reviews electronically for some department chairs and some deans who qualify for review this year. Everyone is encouraged to send in their comments before the deadline of Friday April 09. The reports will be ready before the semester ends.

8. President Sarkar announced that we need nominations for SOS Faculty Secretary for next year. A mail ballot will be conducted before the semester ends.
9. The assembly was adjourned at 11:05am.