

**Indiana University School of Social Work  
Faculty Senate Minutes  
December 7, 2007**

Attendance: McGuire, Vernon, Moffett, Patchner, Roberts, Snyder, Black, Ouellette, Westhuis, Bennett, Weiler, McCallister, Byers, Williamson, Khaja, Boys, Luca Sugowesa, Omorayo Adenrele, Hairston, Kim, Satre, Gass, Lay Sullivan, Thigpen, Fitzgerald, Pike, Armstead

In South Bend: Newcomb, Ramsey, Webb

In Gary: Pardasani, Thomas

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Bob Vernon who asked for additions or corrections to the agenda. None were made. The October minutes were approved unanimously.

**Items for Consideration:**

**Strategic Planning:** Theresa Roberts reported that the SWOT analyses focus groups were taking place and would continue through January, 2008. A memo has been disseminated to all IUSSW constituents encouraging everyone to give input either in the focus groups or in anonymous written format. Ellen Poffenberg, consultant for strategic planning, thanked everyone in advance for their active participation in order for the process to move forward. She also reported that she is working with Rachel to get the Staff together for group and/or individual input. Bob Vernon reiterated that we need data to do the planning process and ensure that all voices are heard.

**Associate Dean search:** David Westhuis reported that we have 10 candidate dossiers for the position. The committee has developed a grid of the major duties of the position that will be used to create a rating form to identify the top candidates for interviews on campus. Candidates will be identified and invited at the beginning of the Spring semester, however the advertisements will continue to run. Paul Newcomb asked what is the overall perception of the candidates. David responded that it was quite varied with some lacking the administrative experience identified as a key skill for the position but some look very good. Kathy Byers asked a question about the process for the on-campus interviews and wanted to make sure that all campus faculty will have the opportunity to interact with the candidates. David reported that the committee plans to ask each candidate to make a presentation that we will develop and that we will make sure that all faculty have an opportunity to participate.

**Dean's Report:** Dean Patchner discussed his disappointment with today's Indianapolis Star headline "SOCIAL WORKERS OVER TAJANEY'S CASE" since we are fairly sure none of those involved were social workers. He has called the reported Tim Evans to express his frustration and Lisa McGuire has called the copy editor, who

writes the headlines and said she did not understand the difference between social worker and case manager. Mike went on to discuss the positives that have been occurring in the IUSSW partnership with DCS and mentioned that the Casey Foundation folks had just honored Governor Daniels and the state for its reform efforts, highlighting the fact that we are the only state who has undertaken this level of comprehensive reform while NOT under a court order.

Mike identified the many changes taking place in the school: April Barnes leaving, Julia Carter providing temporary assistance at the front desk, Sheila Dennis on FMLA and Annette Smith coming on PT to cover BSW student services, Jan Gildner leaving the Filed Department, Craig Campbell hired as Student Services Coordinator for the Labor Studies program, the process of filling the External Affairs position (in conjunction with the Office of External Affairs), the open searches for the Director of the IU Northwest program and Associate Dean position, and searches for two Labor Studies faculty (Bloomington and IUPUI).

The US News and World Report survey just came in the mail and hopefully it will have the "IU School of Social Work" name correct so that we may be fairly evaluated. Last year we were ranked 32<sup>nd</sup> and we hope to move into the top 25 – that has been the Dean's personal goal.

Mike thanked Bob Weiler and others from the faculty (Sheldon Siegel, Susan Larimer, David Westhuis, Manoj Parsadani, Margaret Ademek and Celisa Snyder) who participated in the Franklin proposal to establish viable placements for social work students to help prepare for career in aging.

Mike gave an update on Labor Studies transition to the School. The Labor Studies program officially became part of IUSSW on 7/1/07 and progress continues to be made. We need to get folks participating in our faculty senate meetings. The School has been working with the Vice Chancellor for academic Affairs and we are hearing good things about how smoothly the transition has occurred. Mike reported of positive synergy on the Bloomington campus where Labor Studies has developed a course to help meet our economics requirement for BSWs. Labor Studies is also working to develop a Masters Degree which will open up the potential for another joint degree program.

Mike reported that the Strategic Planning process is moving forward. Many constituent groups have conducted SWOT analyses including the alumni group with Karen Deery-Jones. This information will eventually get reported back to the faculty. We need to continue to strategize about how to include Labor Studies in this process.

Mike has been asked by the Governor to serve as the Chair of the Indiana Commission on Disproportionality in Child Welfare, Corrections, Mental Health and Education. It will be a 32 member commission and Angela Green from DCS will serve as the Co-Chair. The Commission will begin work in January.

**MSW Committee Report:** Bob Bennett reported that we will be having monthly meetings using a longer format to allow us to work more deeply on current issues. Bob reported that we are developing a structured program for mentoring new adjunct faculty and will bring the plan forward to faculty senate in the next few months. The MSW committee is also looking at the horizontal and vertical integration in the MSW curriculum. During the recent meeting, the committee looked at the policy and macro practice course sequences. Paul Newcomb added that we also conducted the SWOT analysis for the strategic plan.

**IU East Needs Assessment for the MSW program:** David Westhuis and Celisa Snyder presented the fiscal analysis for the IU East MSW program. It was identified that 32 students are needed in order to be a fiscally viable program. Ed Fitzgerald and Sheila Armstead presented the Needs Assessment and Field Placement Opportunity study. They used a key informant design and interviewed folks from 13 counties in Indiana and western Ohio. This involved 86 agencies that provided a range of social services. 91% of the interviewers felt there was a need for an MSW program in the area. Agencies were asked about the opportunity for MSW field placements and 63 potential placements were identified. This did NOT include Dunn Mental Health Center, Richmond State Hospital and Comprehensive Community Mental Health Center, which are all supportive of the MSW program and would be potential placements. Sheila Armstead noted that more than half of the agencies provide mental health in a rural setting which may involve a broader range of services. Paul Newcomb asked if the Mental Health concentration was planned. Ed Fitzgerald responded “maybe” however, this would likely be determined once the program was begun and further needs assessment could take place. He expressed doing a rural social work concentration. David Westhuis reported that at IUPUI, it has been noted that we need 2 potential placements for every actual placement is made and the needs assessment seems to meet this standard. Sabrina Williamson asked if the field supervision would be onsite or with consultants? Ed responded that it included both however, it did not include field units or other potentially creative alternatives.

Bob Vernon asked if we were willing to vote to accept the report. Kathy Byers mentioned that this was really an administrative decision and didn’t need a faculty vote. Dean Patchner thanked Ed and Sheila, as well as Sherry Gass, David Westhuis, Bob Weiler and Celisa Snyder, for responding so directly to the expressed concerns of the faculty from the last senate meeting. Mike summarized that it seems like faculty concerns were met and we have faculty endorsement of the program expansion. Paul Newcomb mentioned that given the wide spread of the communities that additional resources needed to be planned to meet the faculty liaison function. Kathy Byers asked what is the plan if the program is not begun or closes early. Ed stated that Sherry Gass had included these contingencies in the MSW application so that students are not guaranteed the program but are able to begin or complete in Indianapolis if the program at IU East is not available.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** None.

**Announcements:** Margaret Adamek asked that faculty complete their evaluations of their doctoral students and forward to her. She also needs faculty to volunteer to serve on dissertation and qualifying examination committees for the doctoral program.

Mike reminded everyone about the Holiday Party.

Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa E. McGuire, Secretary  
Faculty Senate