

COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

200 Bricker Hall

November 3, 2010

3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Faculty:

- | | |
|--|---|
| ✓Dr. Leslie Alexander (History) | ✓Dr. Barbara Polivka (Nursing) |
| ✓Dr. Marilyn J. Blackwell (Scandinavian) | Dr. Robert J. Ward (Music) |
| ✓Dr. James W. Cogdell (Mathematics) | ✓Dr. John W. Wilkins (Physics) |
| ✓Dr. John Fellingham (Business) | ✓Dr. Kay N. Wolf (Allied Medical Professions) |
| ✓Dr. Jay S. Hobgood (Geography) | |
| ✓Dr. Ashok Krishnamurthy (Engineering) | |

Students:

- | | |
|--|--|
| ✓Mr. Niraj Antani (USG, Political Science) | Ms. Sarah K. Douglas (CGS, History) |
| ✓Mr. Dheeraj Duggineni (USG, Biology) | ✓Ms. Sarah Lang (CGS, Education and Human Ecology) |

Administrators:

- ✓ Dr. W. Randy Smith, (Academic Affairs), Vice Chair

Guests:

- | | |
|--|---|
| Dr. Alexis C. Collier (Associate Provost) | Dr. Valerie Williams (Arts and Sciences) |
| Ms. Andrea Bour (Office of the University Registrar) | Dr. Dave Andereck (Arts and Sciences) |
| Dr. Terry Gustafson (Arts and Sciences) | Dr. Elliot Slotnick (Associate Dean, Graduate School) |
| Mr. Andrew Zircher (Education and Human Ecology) | |

The Council came to order at 3:00 PM.

REPORTS FROM THE CO-CHAIRS: JAY S. HOBGOOD, JAMES W. COGDELL

- Hobgood met with the University Senate leaders and discussed setting up an ad-hoc committee to review the proposal from the College of Engineering regarding the reconfiguration of the Department of Aviation. The College is proposing the creation of a Center for Aviation Studies and would like to move the academic programs from the department to the center. Due to some conflicts with the current University Rules 3335-3-36 and 3335-3-37 there is a need for an ad-hoc committee to review these actions. The Senate Leadership requested this proposal be reviewed first by the Steering Committee which will take action in creating the ad-hoc committee to review the reconfiguration.

REPORT FROM THE VICE-CHAIR – W. RANDY SMITH

- On October 29, 2010, the Board of Trustees approved the five proposals submitted by this Council:
 - Creation of the Department of Plastic Surgery;
 - Establishment of an Education Specialist Degree in Teaching and Learning;
 - The Name Change for the Department of Women’s Studies and all its programs;
 - Establishment of a Tagged Master's Degree in Plant Health Management;
 - Establishment of a Clinical/Practitioner Track in the School of Communication.
- Smith attended a recent Senate Steering Committee meeting and provided an update on the centers reviewed by this Council. They also discussed how to identify centers for subsequent reviews. A review of the clinical track faculty was also provided. There was considerable discussion of whether the Council should be reviewing the courses that clinical faculty are permitted to teach and this issue needs further discussion with the Senate leadership.
- The Semester Summit on October 25, 2010, organized by Jay Johnson, Assistant Provost, was attended by 300 people and received strong positive reviews.
- On a matter related to the recent review of the Center for Cognitive Science, Dean Weary, Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences, requested the use of the term “center” for the new “Human Brain and Imaging Center” being established. The term would help more accurately convey the work being undertaken, and would provide external visibility. Council members had no objections but Cogdell asked for assurance that the College of Medicine was aware of the request. Smith will follow up.
- The College of Social Work is establishing an articulation agreement with Central Ohio Technical College (COTC) in Newark, Ohio. It is a 2+2 program- students will finish the first two years through an Associate’s degree at COTC and then apply for the next two years of undergraduate social work programs here. There are stipulations about grade points,

course to transfer, and what courses need to be completed on each campus. Council members expressed no concerns. Smith will follow up with Vice President Dolan Evanovich and Vice Provost Wayne Carlson for further input.

SUBCOMMITTEE C – SARAH DOUGLAS, DHEERAJ DUGGINENI, JOHN FELLINGHAM, KAY WOLF

- **Establishment of a New Masters of Mathematical Sciences** (Guest: Professor Herbert Clemens, Department of Mathematics)

Wolf presented the proposal. The Department of Mathematics is proposing two specializations for their master's programs: Mathematical Bioscience Specialization and Mathematics for Educators Specialization. In the future they are also considering other specializations; like financial and computational mathematics.

Clemens was invited to provide an overview of the proposal. The Department of Mathematics traditionally had large undergraduate and PhD programs, but not a strong master's program. Therefore, these proposed programs will serve a large community and help those students who decide to choose different career paths than the PhD programs. On the other hand, these intermediate master's programs will provide a bridge between undergraduate and PhD programs. The mathematics PhD program is highly competitive and draws students from different local and international institutions. These master's programs will level the foundation of mathematical knowledge for those students who decide to pursue a PhD in mathematics here. These programs will reduce time to degree in our PhD programs and will provide a successful mathematical preparation to students who might have thought of pursuing their PhD in mathematics. These master's programs will have a strong professional component rather than the traditional theoretical ones, and will make a clear distinction between graduate programs in mathematics. These new master's programs will have a positive impact on the time to degree and will provide a great matching to individual career goals of many students.

During the discussion, the following issues were raised and clarifications provided:

- These master's programs require at least 45 credit hours plus extra credits from elective courses and thesis preparation or summer internship. Traditionally, the graduate programs in mathematics required few extra credits compared to the general graduate programs, but they are comparable to the ones offered at other national institutions.
- Because these programs have a professional component, a co-mentor could be used for thesis preparation in addition to a main mentor from the Department of Mathematics. There are minor corrections to be made to the proposal. The term

“and/or” needs to be used consistently in explanations regarding mentoring and co-mentoring.

- Graduate students are represented on the Graduate Study Committee (GSC). The Master of Mathematical Science Program Committee (MPS) is a sub-committee of the GSC. It is difficult to ask students to commit to extra activities, due to the length of graduate programs: average two years.
- Some elective courses need to be taken in sequence, and they can be combined with courses from different categories, depending on the professional track chosen by each student.
- Like PhD students, master’s students will have the opportunity to hold Graduate Teaching Associate (GTA) positions. There are strong relationships with the College of Education and Human Ecology (EHE), and both EHE and the Department of Mathematics provide teaching and placement opportunities for these students.

There were no additional concerns with this proposal. After action of this Council, the proposal will go to the University Senate, the Board of Trustees and to the Board of Regents for action.

Hobgood moved approval; it was seconded by Alexander, and the motion carried with twelve in favor and one abstention.

SUBCOMMITTEE D – JIM COGDELL, JAY HOBGOOD, W. RANDY SMITH

- **The Merger of the Departments of Plant Cellular & Molecular Biology (PCMB) and Molecular Genetics (MG) in to a New Department “Molecular Genetics”** (Guests: Richard Hall, Associate Dean, Division of Natural & Mathematical Science; Mark Seeger, Associate Chair, Molecular Genetics)

Cogdell presented the proposal. MG was created in 1987 and consists of 14.3 FTE positions and 21 faculty members. PCMB was formed in 1998. Due to retirements and resignations there are fewer than ten members in this group. The two departments have overlapping interests and the research is focused on the same issues. The original idea to merge them came out of the old actions of the College of Biological Science to streamline its programs. Once the colleges in Arts and Sciences merged into a single college, the idea came up again, and the current proposal is the effort put together by both departments. The rationale is to provide opportunities to synergize scholarly overlaps, strengthen the teaching, and expand research and services. The combined department will have a higher visibility nationally and locally, and a higher impact in recruiting. In October 2008 the two departments voted unanimously to merge; developed a strategic plan and started acting as a single department; by holding combined faculty meetings and helping each other in the recruiting process. They also developed a Pattern of Administration (POA) and

Promotion and Tenure (P&T) documents. Academic program changes will be a part of the semester conversion process.

During the discussion, the following issues were raised and clarifications provided:

- A correction needs to be made in the third paragraph on page 70. Instead of “AU 2012”, should be used “SU 2010”.
- On page 55 there are specifications about the undergraduate students’ involvement. Traditionally MG had an undergraduate student organization involved in most of the activities of this department and especially in the quarter to semester conversion process. Their involvement will be kept after these two departments will merge.
- After the semester conversion process will take place, the programs in MG will stay mostly the same and programs in PCMB will become MG programs with PCMB specializations. They will have a common core curriculum and the differences will be in the group of elective courses taken by students. For the last few years, it has been a challenge to maintain an appropriate class size in the PMCB undergraduate programs. After the merger of these two departments, some of these issues should be corrected.
- The current PCMB major will continue to exist until the current students complete their programs. With such a small number of students, special advising can be accommodated.
- Regarding the promotion and tenure process, the current faculty will have the option to be reviewed by a committee from the combined merged department or from the former department. Due to this merger, the members from PCMB can use the formal Appointment, Promotion and Tenure Criteria and Procedures (APT) document or the new APT document. Each associate or assistant professor must notify the department chair of her/his choice of the P&T committee and APT document used within six months of the approval of the department merger by the Board of Trustees, but no later than the beginning of the spring quarter before the formal evaluation for tenure and/or promotion would take place.
- The partial appointments (even the 20% appointments) have voting rights within the department based on our pattern of administration/governance.

The Council expressed its appreciation to those who developed the proposal for including the graduate students in activities of these departments and especially in faculty meetings.

Cogdell moved approval; it was seconded by Wilkins, and the motion carried with all in favor.

This proposal will need input from Faculty Council, and votes by the University Senate and the Board of Trustees.

The meeting adjourned at 4:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

W. Randy Smith
Liana Crisan-Vandeborne