

Minutes of Collegial Assembly of January 28, 2008

Dean Hai-Lung Dai called the assembly to order at 4:17 pm

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of November 14, 2007 were approved.

Dean's Report

.Dean Hai-Lung Dai reported that as of January 25, headcount enrollment in the University was up 3% compared to the same date in January 2007, that CST graduate student enrollment was up 8%, and CST undergraduate enrollment was up 10%. Total credits hours generated in the university were up 4.3%, and in CST, they were up 7.4%. While some increase was expected, an increase of this magnitude was not. He reported that the Bylaws Subcommittee of the Dean's Advisory Committee had met in December, and had invited the faculty, via the unmoderated faculty listserv, to submit their thoughts and suggestions about bylaws to the subcommittee. The subcommittee will meet next in February to consider the responses of the faculty. Faculty searches are under way for appointments in 2008-09, including 5 senior and 4 junior appointments. All departments except Geology are participating. In Chemistry, a senior faculty candidate from the University of Pennsylvania has already accepted an offer. Last year, the college successfully completed 100% of our searches, and we hope to achieve this goal again, thanks to the hard work of the faculty.

Committee Reports

Undergraduate Committee

The committee presented the following MOTION:

The Collegial Assembly of the College of Science and Technology approves the restructuring of the degree program, that of the B.S. in Mathematics and Physics as specified in the documents to be found at:

http://www.temple.edu/cst/facultystaff/assembly/updated_math_phy.pdf

M. Luehrmann explained the rationale as summarized by the committee:

The proposed revisions to the B.S. in Mathematics and Physics are designed to better prepare the students who are planning to go to graduate school in theoretical physics or applied mathematics. Although this is a small population of students, the program is important to them. Theoretical physicists need to develop their mathematical skills far beyond the calculus and differential equations. The current program has far too much duplication of material and is too large a major to be reasonable. The revision improves the program by removing duplicated material, by replacing some courses with their more rigorous counterparts, and by focusing the work on the intersection between the two fields.

The question having been called, and the vote taken, Dean Dai ruled that the MOTION PASSED without opposition.

The committee presented the following MOTION:

The Collegial Assembly of the College of Science and Technology approves the creation of a new degree program, that of the B.S. in Mathematics and Computer Science as specified in the documents to be found at:
http://www.temple.edu/cst/facultystaff/assembly/newBS_math_cis.pdf

M. Luehrmann explained the rationale as summarized by the committee:

The proposed B.S. in Mathematics and Computer Science is designed to better prepare the students who are planning to go to graduate school in theoretical computer science or applied mathematics. Although this is a small population of students, the program is important to them. Those computer scientists who will be developing the theory of computing will need to develop their mathematical skills far beyond the calculus and differential equations. The new program was carefully designed to remove duplicated material, by replacing some courses with their more rigorous counterparts, and by focusing the work on the intersection between the two fields.

The question having been called, and the vote taken, Dean Dai ruled that the MOTION PASSED without opposition.

Graduate Committee

A. Nicholson reported that the committee met to begin implementation of the ApplyYourself software system for on-line applications to graduate studies, and had identified individuals in each department as users of the system, who would be trained in its use by personnel from the Graduate School. The committee had taken action to remedy a problem experienced by graduate students enrolled in an English course for non-native speakers which was giving letter grades that adversely affected their GPAs. Although no meeting of the graduate faculty with Dean Iglesias had been held since October, the CST graduate committee was working on the formation of new MS programs, and on issues with the stipends and appointments of postdoctoral fellows, the operations of International Services, and mechanisms for increased support of TAs.

R. Levis, noting that Chemistry will have exceeded its formal TA allocation for two consecutive years, asked about plans for increasing the collegial allocation. A. Nicholson responded that collegial allocations had been frozen after the TUGSA contract was implemented, but that plans for increase were being considered. Dean Dai responded that he had raised this issue with the Provost after discussion with the Graduate Committee. Additional lines are necessary to support both undergraduate teaching and the graduate program, and a study of the issues is underway in CST. The number of lines allocated to the colleges is historical, and does not reflect the significant enrollment growth in CST. The Provost's agenda includes consideration of a major reallocation of resources across the university which might be implemented next year.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted by R.J.