

## **Minutes of Collegial Assembly of November 14, 2007**

Dean Hai-Lung Dai called the assembly to order at 2:51 pm

### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of September 26, 2007 were approved without change.

### **Dean's Report**

Dean Hai-Lung Dai announced that Emeritus Professor Man-Chiang Niu of the Biology Department died on November 8 in Beijing at the age of 95. Professor Niu, a developmental biologist, retired from Temple University in 1981. After retirement, Professor Niu served as a doctoral advisor of the Graduate University of the Chinese Academy of Science in Beijing, and was an academician of the Academia Sinica in Taiwan. A memorial service is to be held on Friday, November 16, in Babaoshan Funeral Home in Beijing.

Dean Dai reported that the process of creating bylaws specific to the College of Science and Technology has begun. A Bylaws subcommittee of the Dean's Advisory Committee has been formed, consisting of E. Borguet (Chemistry), D. Forster (Physics), D. Szyld (Mathematics), and J. Tanaka (Biology), and is chaired by Senior Associate Dean R. Jenkins. J. Korsh objected to the process by which the committee was formed, arguing that the Collegial Assembly should have determined the membership. Dean Dai noted that the committee was formed in consultation with the Dean's Advisory Committee, in accordance with the Standard Bylaws (Art. IV), that three of the four subcommittee members were among the members of the Dean's Advisory Committee that had been appointed from the nominees elected by the Collegial Assembly, and that the subcommittee members would be available for discussion with and suggestions from the faculty. To a question by O. Chein, the Dean replied that the subcommittee would draft bylaws, which would be offered for discussion by the Collegial Assembly. J. Sheffield suggested that the subcommittee solicit suggestions from the faculty early in the process. B. Datskovsky MOVED that the Collegial Assembly approve the membership of the subcommittee. The motion having been seconded, the question called, and the vote taken, Dean Dai ruled that the MOTION PASSED by a vote of 14 in favor, 1 opposed, 3 abstaining. Dean Dai noted that the bylaws process will involve wide consultation of the faculty by the members of the committee, and will lay the groundwork for the advancement of the college for many years to come.

Dean Dai reported that CST and the College of Education had submitted a joint proposal to the National Math and Science Initiative (NMSI), a non-profit organization funded by ExxonMobil, to replicate at Temple the UTeach program, developed at the University of Texas at Austin, which has been successful in attracting science and mathematics undergraduates into the teaching profession. The PI for the joint proposal is D. Dalton of Chemistry. NMSI has informed us that a grant of \$2.4 million will be awarded to Temple. A formal announcement will be made on November 26 in the President's Conference Room, 1810 Liacouras walk, with representatives of Temple, ExxonMobil, the University

of Texas, and others. D. Dalton will ask the help of the CST faculty in identifying students who may be appropriate for and interested in this program.

## **Committee Reports**

### Undergraduate Committee

B. Datskovsky reported that the Committee has been working on issues of mentoring in MSRC, and encouraged the faculty to become more involved in the process of tutoring. The Committee has approved the granting of graduation credits for introductory courses in Military Science, and is studying issues in the calculation of the GPA in courses required for the major: should any course taken in the major department count, or only selected courses? Should courses not in the major department, but required for the major, e.g. Chemistry for Biology majors, be included in the calculation? Departmental representatives of the committee will contact their departments and report back to the committee in mid-December; prompt action is needed to allow Computer Services time to program the calculations.

B. Datskovsky, for the Committee, presented the following MOTION:

*The Collegial Assembly of the College of Science and Technology approves changing the name of the Geology Department to “Department of Earth and Environmental Science.”*

Rationale: The current department of Geology houses a diverse set of faculty and programs. The discipline has evolved over time, which has caused the external program review to recommend that the name of the department be changed to one that “captures the modern disciplines represented by current and future programs”. Many peer institutions have also changed the name of their department of geology to either Earth and Environmental Science or Earth and Environmental Sciences. There is no change in any of the requirements for the current majors (the Geology BS, the Earth Science BA, as well as the intercollegial Environmental Studies BS), the personnel, the use of space resources, the campuses served, or the budget. This is simply a name change to better reflect the intellectual nature of the department and its curriculum.

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

B. Datskovsky, for the Committee, presented the following MOTION:

*The Collegial Assembly of the College of Science and Technology approves changes to the existing Mathematics B.A. and B.S. requirements as specified in the documents to be found at:*

[http://www.temple.edu/cst/facultystaff/assembly/proposal\\_new\\_math\\_ba\\_seq.pdf](http://www.temple.edu/cst/facultystaff/assembly/proposal_new_math_ba_seq.pdf)  
[http://www.temple.edu/cst/facultystaff/assembly/proposal\\_new\\_math\\_bs\\_seq.pdf](http://www.temple.edu/cst/facultystaff/assembly/proposal_new_math_bs_seq.pdf)

Rationale: All departments in the College of Science and Technology offer a B.A. and B.S. degree. In all departments but Mathematics, the B.S. is the more prestigious degree. The new requirements will bring the Department of Mathematics in line with the other CST departments. Currently the Department of Mathematics offers two undergraduate degrees, a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) and a Bachelor of Science (B.S.). The B.A. degree has fewer requirements than the B.S. degree. However, the courses it requires are key to solid undergraduate education in pure mathematics: a year of real analysis, a year of modern algebra, one semester of complex analysis, and a semester of differential geometry or topology. The B.S., while having more required courses, has a decidedly applied flavor. It requires only one semester of modern algebra and carries no differential geometry/topology requirement. In essence, unlike all other departments, the B.A. program is designed for those students who intend to pursue graduate education in mathematics; the B.S. is the degree for those students who intend to join the work force after college. We would like to reverse the intention of each of these such that the student interested in pure mathematics also takes more mathematics and the student interested in applied mathematics takes a smaller set of courses. Among the benefits will be that students who wish to get secondary certification in mathematics will be able to complete the regular Mathematics B.A. as well as their Secondary Education courses and still graduate with a four year major as required by the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE). By retaining the most theoretical courses for the B.S., the advanced calculus and modern algebra sequences, the students who are going to graduate school will get courses with high standards. The new courses designed for the B.S. include 3051, Theoretical Linear Algebra (in place of 2101), and 3045, Differential Equations with Linear Algebra (in place of the current 3041). The new courses designed for the B.A. include 3137, Real and Complex Analysis I (in place of 3141), 3138, Real and Complex Analysis II (in place of 3142), and 3096, Introduction to Modern Algebra (in place of 3098-3099).

D. Zitarelli commended the proposal to change the B.A. requirements to encourage qualified students to meet the new requirements for teacher certification, but urged the Assembly to vote against the proposed changes to B.S. requirements, arguing that the requirements were less flexible than those in comparable universities and would discourage students from completing the B.S. He noted that the four Great Teachers in Mathematics opposed the changes. O. Chein supported the substance of the proposal, but wished for more input from the department faculty, and asked what disadvantage would come from delaying the decision. M. Luehrmann replied that in order to allow Fall 2008 implementation and meet the new state requirements, we should put the proposal before the Board of Trustees in December, and must put it before them no later than March, requiring approval from the Provost no later than February. J. Nyquist suggested approving the B.A. requirements and delaying decision on the B.S. requirements. To call for clarification of his objection, D. Zitarelli replied that he considered the B.S. requirements too inflexible by comparison with our competitor universities such as Penn State. B. Datskovsky noted that the departmental undergraduate committee had voted unanimously in favor of the proposal. B. Conrad agreed that the committee had voted in

favor but did not recall whether the vote was unanimous. O. Chein argued that a decision affecting the department had been made by a subset of the faculty. A. Hughes commented that the problem appeared to be insufficient opportunity for discussion within the department.

Dean Dai offered the following AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION:

*the Collegial Assembly approves the proposed Mathematics B.A. and B.S. changes, submitted by the Mathematics Undergraduate Committee through the CST Undergraduate Committee, contingent upon the Mathematics Department's approval.*

The MOTION TO AMEND having been seconded, J. Nyquist expressed concern about contingent approval; J. Korsh asked whether the department had followed its own procedures in approving the proposal. The question having been called, the vote was taken, and Dean Dai ruled that the MOTION PASSED by a vote of 11 in favor, 2 opposed, no abstentions.

The question on the MAIN MOTION having been called and the vote taken, Dean Dai ruled that the MOTION PASSED by a vote of 11 in favor, 1 opposed, 1 abstention.

#### Graduate Committee

A. Nicholson reported that two Bridges to the Doctorate Fellowships were available for award in January to entering students. A form is being designed to allow departments to apply for matching funds from the Dean's Office for graduate student travel to research conferences. It is expected that the ApplyYourself software will be installed soon, although perhaps not in time for student use this year. The Graduate Committee is preparing a long-range plan to increase the number of TA and RA lines available in the college.

#### General Education Area Coordinator

A. Hughes announced that it had been decided that all General Education Quantitative Literacy courses would count toward either the Core QA or the Core QB requirement for students satisfying the old Core requirements. This decision might affect scheduling for 2008-09. M. Luehrmann noted that implementation of this decision would be difficult to automate, and would place an additional burden on advising personnel.

Dean Dai called for acknowledgment of the successful efforts of M. Luehrmann and D. Dalton in bringing the UTeach implementation grant to Temple. They received a round of applause from the Assembly.

#### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted by R.J.