

DRAFT

Minutes of Collegial Assembly of December 10, 2010

Dean Dai called the assembly to order at 11:12 am.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of September 22, 2010 were approved.

Report from Faculty Senate Steering Committee

J. Korsh reported on activities taken by the FSSC. The committee has held helpful meetings with members of administration, such as a meeting with Stephanie Ives, VP for Students, concerning an assessment of the campus climate for GLBTQ students. Volunteers are needed for numerous Faculty Senate committees, and alternates for Representative Senators who cannot attend senate meetings. To encourage increased attendance, FSSC has asked colleges not to schedule assemblies that conflict with announced times of Senate meetings. Individual statistics of attendance will be made public in the future. A retreat with representatives of administration was held. Some results have been: a draft by Senior Vice Provost Maleson of a proposed template for revised bylaws for colleges; new policies for aspects of undergraduate education, such as repeating courses; revision of the guidelines for promotion and tenure, soon to be available for comments by the faculty at large; a committee report on Temple's web presence. The Faculty Senate at its last meeting discussed the Student Feedback Forms; the topic for the next meeting will be the course scheduling matrix.

Undergraduate Committee

For the committee, B. Datskovsky 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 Applied Mathematics as specified in the documents to be found in the December, 2010 row of the Assembly Minutes & Attachments at:

<http://www.temple.edu/cst/facultystaff/assembly.html>

B. Datskovsky and M. Luehrmann explained the rationale for the proposed program; it is designed for students who intend to work in a technical mathematics-related field, is also suitable for students who wish to pursue a graduate degree in computational and applied mathematics, and recognizes the strength of the applied mathematics faculty. In response to questions, B. Datskovsky noted that the program was similar to that offered by Penn State, and E. Letzter added that the program provides students a choice between two strong programs, theoretical and applied, and that any respectable department would offer both. The question having been called, and the vote taken, Dean Dai ruled that the MOTION CARRIED.

For the information of the Assembly, M. Luehrmann reported modifications in the Computer Science and Information Science and Technology programs. In the first two years, students will now take a common core of courses in programming, math concepts, and statistics. The effect of the change, in D. Forster's phrase, is to delay for two years the exfoliation of the majors.

Dean's Report

Dean Dai reported that the Dean's Advisory Committee had discussed ways of increasing attendance at Collegial Assembly meetings. Suggestions offered by DAC were: limiting the duration of meetings, setting special topics for discussion, and choosing a faculty member rather than the Dean as chair to stimulate discussion. Dean Dai invited comment. J. Korsh expressed preference for a faculty chair. M. Lyyra preferred continuing current practice because of the value of direct communication with the Dean. Korsh suggested that attendance would be improved under a faculty chair. Dean Dai noted that formal actions in the Assembly might require that the Dean serve as chair, but that informal discussions might be held under another model. L. Dubeck noted that the chair is determined by the bylaws, and suggested that attendance is determined by the faculty's interest in the topics of discussion. R. Aiken expressed belief that communication has been much improved during Dean Dai's tenure.

Dean Dai reported on the status of the new building, now referred to as the Science/Research/Education building. The shape of the building has changed from previous plans because of a change in architects. Discussion of its utilization is ongoing. Currently, it is thought that it will house CIS, Physics, and the Center for Computational Science. It will have teaching classrooms and labs, as well as research labs. Two floors will have hood-intensive wet labs for interdisciplinary research. Lecture halls and conference rooms will be located on the first and second floors. CST will be the primary user, with some use by non-CST scientists whose research fits the program of the building.

J. Korsh suggested the new building as a suitable topic for discussion in the next Assembly meeting, and expressed preference for a college-centered building that would serve as a meeting space for CST students, as Alter Hall does for SBM students. Dean Dai noted that Paley could serve that purpose; it would house the Dean's Office, Math, and EES, assuming the state budget continues to provide for renovations. Unlike SBM, CST will occupy Beury, BioLife, the new building, and Paley, and will thus have a virtual center. R. McGinnis suggested engaging a group of students in discussion of the needs for students. E. Borguet, noting that faculty had little input into the Beury renovation plans, urged earlier faculty involvement in future projects. Dean Dai noted that, although the architect for the new building has just been named, groundbreaking is still scheduled in three months, but the floor designs are not yet done. Even the modular size of faculty offices has not yet been decided. During the coming months, as construction proceeds, the interior architectural design will be done with opportunities for faculty input. To S. Amini's question about the status of the science library in the new building, Dean Dai responded that it might instead be included in Paley.

Dean Dai noted that congratulations were in order for T. Hsieh, who in late October was an invited speaker at a Congressional Briefing hosted by the Council on Undergraduate research in conjunction with the House Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Education Caucus. Her briefing, taped for presentation on the website of the Council, was effective and highly praised.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted by R.J.