

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Minutes of the Collegial Assembly March 17, 1999

Louis Raymon called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM. The following were present:

Biology	Chemistry	CIS	Geology	Mathematics	Physics	College Administration
Gruberg N. Hillman R. Hillman Roberts Sheffield	Krow Wunder	Aiken Stafford	Anderson Hill Myer Ulmer	Chein Conrad Grinberg Nathan Raymon	Gawlinski Lyyra	McMenamin Platsoucas

Anderson submitted a correction to the minutes of March 3, 1999, viz.: make the following editorial changes to the amendment to the by-laws regarding the Promotion and Tenure Committee:

Replace the words "at least two who hold the rank of Associate Professor" with "at least two of whom hold the rank of Associate Professor."

Add an apostrophe to the words "representatives absence."

The minutes were approved with these corrections

Report of the Chair: L. Raymon

To avoid an excessive number of committees, the Awards Committee will serve as the Teaching Resources Committee. The Budget and Planning Committee will double as the Conflict Resolution Committee. A Workload Advisory Committee has been elected; the membership is **Grandstaff, R. Hillman, Martoff, Srinivasan, Stafford, and Williams.**

Dean's Report: C. Platsoucas

Faculty searches in Molecular Neuroscience, Environmental Science, Biotechnology, Bioengineering, Biomaterials, and Applied Mathematics are under way.

Funding has been found for three Research Assistantships in the College. This is a first step toward improving the climate for graduate education. Graduate stipends remain too low to be competitive.

We need to start reviewing the graduate and research programs within the College with the objective of making them stronger and more efficient.

The Center for Student Professional Development will be located on the first floor of the Barton Hall B-wing, which will be completely renovated for the purpose. A search for the Director is now in progress. The Director will be responsible for coordinating coop and internship programs, and for helping students to prepare for professional careers in science and technology. The Center will share the first floor with an office of the Alliance for Minority Participation, the CST Student Government, and a small science museum. We expect that the facility will be ready for occupation in the fall.

Statistics indicate that the trend of declining enrollments in the six science departments has already reversed. Spring 1999 enrollments have increased by 117 at the undergraduate level and by 9 at the graduate level, as compared with the spring 1998 semester. Furthermore, applications for fall 1999 admission, admissions for fall 1999, and deposits paid for fall 1999 are up 39%, 48%, and 56%, respectively, over the comparable figures for fall 1998. We attribute these successes to the improvements that have been made since the split of CAS. Recruitment efforts include writing to all accepted applicants, open house events on weekends, and telephone sessions in which our students telephone the accepted applicants.

Stafford asked if the admissions data were separated by department. The Dean replied that he did not have such information about applications.

Nathan reported that the combined BS-MD program admits 10 students per year. Applicants typically have combined SAT scores exceeding 1400, and those that are accepted have SAT scores over 1500. He has the files of applicants to the program, and is willing to make them available for recruitment efforts. The Dean commented that the success of the BS-MD program has prompted efforts to set up BS-DDS and BS-DPM programs as well.

Committee Reports

Aiken reported for the **Graduate Committee**. The committee has suggestions for improving the research profile of the College. It intends to raise the visibility of the following issues, and to strengthen the dean's hand in arguing for improvements.

1. The budget should include money to support research assistants.
2. Teaching assistant stipends must increase to a level where they are competitive.
3. A health insurance package should be offered to graduate assistants.

The Graduate Committee is in the midst of considering two new degree proposals: A PhD program in Neuroscience and an MA degree in Integrative Applied Mathematics. The committee hopes to have proposals ready for a first reading at the next meeting of this Assembly.

Old Business

The motion to approve the **Concentration in Neuroscience** had its second reading. The motion passed unanimously and without amendment or discussion. The Concentration is

described in a document that has been distributed to the Faculty and is available on the web at www.temple.edu/CST.

The motion to approve the **Second Bachelor's Degree** had its second reading. **Nathan** asked a procedural question: How are the admissions requirements, as described in the proposal, to be implemented by Admissions, and will applicants for the program be treated as transfer students? **McMenamin** addressed this question. Applicants are treated as transfer students, and Admissions is aware that it must contact the Advising Office in order to set up interviews as specified in the proposal. Nathan explained that he administered a post-baccalaureate program designed for students who want to fulfil pre-medical requirements after graduation. In the program, the students take basic science courses as non-matriculated students, with no degree objective in this College. There is no financial aid available for non-matriculated students, and the second bachelor's program appears to present an opportunity for such students to enroll in a degree program for the purpose of qualifying for financial aid, albeit not for the degree. He therefore offered the following amendment:

Students admitted to the post-baccalaureate pre-medical program are exempt from the requirements for admission to the second Bachelor's degree program.

Hill stated that the program was designed for students who wanted a second Bachelor's degree, and not simply the opportunity to matriculate. **Stafford** commented that the program would treat the student who had graduated in about the same way as the transfer student who was one credit short of graduation. The interview process was designed as part of the application. He asked what requirement would be an impediment to the post-baccalaureate pre-medical student. Nathan said that the calculus examination and the interview with the Undergraduate Advising Coordinator would prevent many from applying. Stafford replied that if the amendment passes, the students wouldn't be matriculated anyway. **McMenamin** said that admissions as proposed by the amendment would be through the back door.

Responding to these comments, Nathan said that the Admissions Office should admit students to the post-baccalaureate pre-medical program. Their applications would be referred to Admissions by his office. Some, by becoming degree candidates, would obtain financial aid. About one-half dozen students would be involved. If the Second Bachelor's Degree proposal passes without this amendment, the students would have to be admitted under the more stringent terms, and would be discouraged.

Sheffield said that we should make the rules, and not legislate the exceptions. Hill said that admissions at CAS was handled by the Admissions office, but that Tyler and Music have separate admissions processes.

A call for the question on the amendment passed 9 - 4. The amendment was subsequently defeated by a vote of 12 - 1.

Stafford noted the CAS tradition never to allow any sort of second bachelor's degree. He also thought it would be possible to tailor another policy that would meet the needs of the post-baccalaureate pre-medical students.

Following this discussion, the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

New Business

Neville gave the first reading of a proposal for a **BS Program in Biophysics**. A copy of the proposal was distributed at the meeting and is to be found at www.temple.edu/CST.

Sheffield asked what department administered the program. Neville said that Physics would. Students would have to meet with advisors to choose courses. The program includes four elective courses to be taken, in a number of different departments. **Anderson** asked if any hiring would be necessary to implement the program. Neville responded that hiring was unnecessary; the courses needed, and a credible research component, were already in place. It was noted that the Neuroscience program didn't require anything either, but that the program was hiring.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Conrad