

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Minutes of the Collegial Assembly
October 6, 2005

Aiken called the meeting to order at 4:15 PM. The following were present:

Biology	CIS	Geology	Mathematics	Physics	College Administration
Amini	Aiken	Grandstaff	Chein	Burkhardt	Conrad
Baird	Friedman	Myer	Coughlin	Dubeck	Jenkins
Sanders	Hughes	Nyquist	Datskovsky	Dziembowski	Sadeghipour
Sheffield	Ingargiola	Terry	Mendoza	Forster	
	Korsh	Toran	Zitarelli	Martoff	
	Nosek	Ulmer		Meziani	
Chemistry	Poe				Library
Varnum	Stafford				Sneff
	Wolfgang				

Jane Evans, president of the Faculty Senate, was present.

Approval of minutes

The minutes of May 3, 2005 were approved.¹

Dean's Report: Keya Sadeghipour

All appointment letters for faculty have been completed. Enrollments for the College are up 5%, despite a 14% decline in graduate head count. We have 4.6% more freshmen than last year, but 14% fewer transfers, so the total number of new students has declined by 5%. Research funding has suffered a loss of \$6 million due to the move of the Center for Neurovirology and cancer Biology to the School of Medicine. The impact will be felt as we try to find the money necessary for startup packages when recruitment of tenure track faculty resumes. Current annual research funding, by department, is as follows:

¹After the meeting had adjourned, **Toran** informed the Secretary that she and **Nyquist** were not listed as present, although they were both quoted in the minutes of May 3. The Secretary apologizes, and this oversight will be corrected. Toran also noted that although the Dean's report said that Acting Dean Nicholson would attempt to get the Geology program review moved to 2006-2007, the review will actually take place in 2007-2008.

Biology	\$892,000
Chemistry	4,500,000
CIS	315,000
Geology	68,000
Mathematics	152,000
Physics	794,000
Total	\$6,721,000

This is about \$58,000 per faculty member — about 43% down from last year.

The Mathematics and CIS departments have rearranged offices, and there have been some renovations to better accommodate these departments in Wachman Hall. In Barton Hall, new space has been found, with the help of the Department of Physics, for the Office of Student Services. Renovations are continuing in Beury Hall, and Barton Hall will be renovated next.

Department chairs have been given budgets, and put in charge of expenditures. The Office of the Dean has made a commitment to respond to all inquiries within one day. If no response to a request has been received within 48 hours, the requester can assume that the request is approved. No job in the business office will remain incomplete for more than 5 days.

We cannot expect to appoint any new tenure track faculty members until a permanent dean is appointed. However, our demographics indicate that we should at least begin some searches, and the acting dean is making that point with the Office of the Provost. For searches to be successful, we need not only a permanent dean — we also need money for startup.

General Education: Laura Toran and Jane Evans

The General Education Executive Committee is preparing a request for proposals (RFP) that will be distributed this month. Proposals will be sent to the area coordinators (Tony Hughes, QL, and Susan Jansen Varnum, NS) for review. Their review, and the reviews by the Executive Committee, must be completed by May, 2006. Final approvals will be given by the Executive Committee by May 31, and the course descriptions will be in the catalog to be offered in Fall, 2007.

Although the Executive Committee will approve proposed courses on a rolling basis, the coordinators will be able to hold space for proposals if the

proposers keep them informed. Early submission of a proposal will leave time for revisions if necessary.

In the first round, the number of courses that will be approved is 5 in QL, and 10 in NS. This keeps a few openings for good ideas that arise later. Not all General Education courses will be big, but some obviously will. Courses that can be taught by only one person are not acceptable. Honors General Education courses will be considered separately, and will not be counted against the limits in each area.

Toran commented that the committee is student-oriented and practical.

Forster inquired about who would be responsible for a multidisciplinary course. Jane Evans said this would be a negotiation between area coordinators and department chairs. **Chein** asked if there is an a priori limit on the number of proposals from a particular department that could be approved. Evans replied that the Executive Committee would discourage more than 2 courses from a single department.

Hughes added that sequential courses would be hard to fit into 2 years (students are expected to complete the General Education by the end of their sophomore years), but a QL course could be a prerequisite for an NS course. **Varnum** added that General Education courses could require a placement test. General Education courses should not be remedial.

Sheffield asked how General Education would affect transfer students. Evans responded that agreements, similar to the present core-to-core agreements, would be negotiated with community colleges.

Hughes announced that he had started a QL home page,

<http://www.cis.temple.edu/~hughes/GenEdQL2.htm>

Senate Steering Committee

Evans said that that the University administration had formed a faculty workload committee, with no faculty representation. She urged faculty members to attend the October 11 meeting of the Representative Faculty Senate. Although only representatives can vote, all full time faculty members can participate in discussion and debate.

Korsh hoped that the Steering Committee would address this activity with a strong motion. Evans said that the motion had been prepared.

Aiken added his hope that the Senate meeting would attract a large

turnout. Ballots for the election of Faculty Senate committees have been distributed.

Undergraduate Committee: Susan Jansen Varnum

The second reading of the Committee's motion to establish a new curriculum, B.A. in Natural Science, led to two amendments. The first was to Section 3, Upper Level Concentration. The sentence, "Course selections must be done in consultation with a CST advisor" was replaced with "Course selection must be done in consultation with a departmental advisor from the concentration area." This amendment passed with no opposition and 1 abstention.

A second amendment to the same section required the five upper level courses to be from the same discipline. That amendment passed unanimously.

The wording of that section is now as follows:

3. Upper Level Concentration

Students in the General Science Program must choose a concentration area and complete a 5 upper level courses (of three or more credits) in one discipline from the following list: chemistry, biology, geology or physics. One of these courses must be writing intensive.

Course selections must be done in consultation with a departmental advisor from the concentration area.

Total Credits: 15-20

A question was asked about concentrations in areas such as biochemistry, which combine disciplines. Varnum said that these concentrations would not be available until the Undergraduate Committee finds a way to accommodate them.

The motion to approve this curriculum was passed with 23 votes in favor, none opposed, and 2 abstentions.

The first reading of the new track to the B.A. degree in Mathematics occurred with no discussion. The new track is for students who intend to teach mathematics in grades 7-12.

In other business, the committee has approved a requirement that to satisfy the prerequisite for Biology 101-102, courses must be passed with a grade of *C* or better, and a proposal from the Department of Biology to re-number its course 234 (Mammalian physiology) as 334.

Dean search: Joel Sheffield

The committee is making progress, and after reviewing many CV's and selecting some for off-campus interviews, there is progress. On-campus visits from finalists are expected in November, if all goes well. The faculty from the College on the committee have been excellent participants. In response to questions from the floor regarding the timing of the release of names and final selection, Sheffield said that he could not supply information.

New Business

Aiken said that he wants to be replaced as the chair of the Collegial Assembly, citing his new responsibility as chair of the CIS Department. He also urged the dean to name the collegial committees, adding that the dean could just reappoint the old committees. The Advisory Committee, which is supposed to assist in preparing the Assembly agenda, should be activated. The Assembly should convene again within a month's time.

Motion: *The assembly urges the acting dean to clarify the status of the collegial committees.* This motion was made by Sanders, seconded by Chein, and passed without debate with none opposed and one abstention.

Adjournment The meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Conrad