

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Minutes of the Collegial Assembly of December 14, 2006

Joel Sheffield called the meeting to order at 2:40pm.

Minutes

The minutes of November 11, 2006 were approved without change.

Dean's Report

Dean Hai-Lung Dai being away, there was no Dean's Report.

Motion to Grant Degrees

S. Varnum proposed a MOTION to approve the granting of degrees in January, 2007 to those students who had met graduation requirements. Being seconded, the MOTION PASSED without dissent.

Committee Reports

Undergraduate Committee

S. Varnum reported that the committee was working on issues of course renumbering, e.g. sequencing of courses in Biology. In preparation for the implementation of General Education, some departments were moving now-Core courses into the major. Some proposed changes to majors, such as Biochemistry, were still awaiting approval by the Provost, as were the name change for Computer Science, the new Natural Sciences major, and some changes of prerequisites. To questions about the reasons for delay, Varnum responded that name changes require approval by the Board of Trustees; changes to majors require provostial approval, and the Provost's Office had not yet decided the issue of the number of required free electives for majors under the GenEd policy.

Advisory Committee

J. Sheffield presented for discussion the draft of the **College of Science and Technology Guidelines for Tenure and Promotion Reviews**. Discussion focused upon the intended audience, the purpose of the document, its potential usefulness in clarifying issues particular to CST personnel evaluations for non-CST evaluators, and the level of specific detail provided for each discipline. Discussion having ended, Sheffield determined that the sense of the Assembly was that the document should go forward to the Provost's Office.

Faculty Senate Steering Committee

R. Aiken reported the most important recent items before the committee. D. Zitarelli chaired a committee examining the issue of defining Honors faculty; from

the floor, O. Chein that the vote was not to identify Honors faculty. Aiken reported that revision of the Faculty Handbook was under consideration; guidelines for promotion and tenure were discussed, and all colleges were urged to create their own guidelines. A subcommittee of FSSC has looked over the workload study done last year by the Provost's Office; the report is not yet public. The status of Non-Tenure Track faculty and librarians in the Faculty Senate has been discussed. FSSC has spoken with some administrators about possible simplification of paperwork in their offices under the new presidential administration. On the question of free electives in GenEd, the Deans and the Faculty Senate seem to agree that the decision should rest with the colleges. Each college has its own issues, which are being addressed at the Faculty Senate. There is a division of opinion between pre-professional programs with accreditation issues, and broader programs offering liberal education.

P. LaFollette, noting that the President cares about faculty governance, urged increased attendance at Faculty Senate meetings.

Graduate Committee

D. Baird reported that the new chair of the committee is F. Spano. J. Korsh of CIS is leaving, and being replaced by J. Nosek. The committee has worked to coordinate its activities with the Graduate Board to make more effective use of the Temple fellowship program, has heard from E. Borguet on effective recruiting strategies, and has voted to recommend funding for a new round of travel funds for graduate student travel.

Old Business

P. LaFollette asked whether a faculty listserv, separate from the college listserv moderated by the Dean's Office, had yet been created. J. Sheffield responded that the issue of membership was not yet settled. G. Ingargiola suggested that, for purposes of disseminating information, the membership should be as inclusive as possible. To D. Forster's question whether the list would be open or moderated, Sheffield suggested that it should be open at first, to determine whether moderation is needed. To L. Toran's question why the list should not be moderated, Sheffield replied that a faculty moderator would be required, and might not be found.

New Business

G. Sneff announced that an open house would be held next semester in the new space for the combined science libraries; faculty and graduate students will be invited. Three library prizes for student research, of \$1000 each, will be announced, with a submission date of April 6.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:38pm.
Respectfully submitted,