

Minutes of the Fall 2011 School of Science Faculty Assembly
Friday, November 11, 2011
Science Building, Room LD 010

Faculty Present

Biology: Bard, Martin; Kusmierczyk, Andrew; Lees, N. Douglas (Associate Dean); Li, Jiliang; Randall, Steve; Marrs, Kathleen (Associate Dean); Reese, Britt; Rhodes, Simon (Dean); Skalnik, David (Associate Dean), Watson, John C. (President of the Faculty); Yard, Michael;

Chemistry & Chemical Biology: Anliker, Keith; Boyd, Donald; McLeish, Michael; Minto, Robert; Muhoberac, Barry; Siegel, Jay; Zhao, Hongqiu;

Computer & Information Science: Liang, Yao; Mukhopadhyay, Snehasis (Secretary of the Faculty); Tuceryan, Mihran (Past-President of the Faculty);

Earth Sciences: Barth, Andrew; Nelson, Jennifer; Gilhooly, William;

Mathematical Sciences: Boukai, Benzion; Geller, William; Its, Alexander; Misiurewicz, Michal; Sarkar, Jyotirmoy; Tarasov, Vitaly; Zhu, Luoding;

Physics: Gavrin, Andrew; Petrache, Horia; Wassall, Steve;

Psychology: Ashburn-Nardo, Leslie; Cyders, Melissa; McGrew, John; Salyers, Michelle;

1. President John Watson called the assembly to order at 9:05 a.m. He asked if there was motion to accept the agenda. It was so moved, seconded, and the agenda was unanimously approved.
2. Watson asked if there was motion to accept the minutes of the last Spring Faculty Assembly (April 1, 2011). It was so moved, seconded, and unanimously approved.
3. Reports from the Dean's administration. Dean Simon Rhodes provided updates on some key issues. First, he welcomed all new faculty to IUPUI School of Science. Noting that it was the Veterans' Day, he reiterated the school's resolve to provide support to our veterans by providing great educational opportunities. He mentioned that there were some changes in the Dean's office with the aim to provide support to faculty and students, particularly grant administration and support. According to him, the grant success ratio for the school is high and we need to a strong rate of submissions. He renewed efforts in developmental and financial planning. He stated that the demography of the students in the school is changing, necessitating renewed efforts in student recruitment, retention, and graduation, as well as providing career services. He reviewed the status of three New Academic Directions (NAD) working groups relevant to the school. With respect to the School of Liberal Arts (SLA) and School of Science (SOS) merger working group, the discussions generated a renewed interest in partnership between the two schools to identify shared curricular interests and mechanisms to allow student transfers. The Computing working group meeting, chaired by Bill Blomquist (Dean, SLA), was initially halted in view of possible structural changes in the university. However, the group continued to have productive meetings. As a result, a proposed B.A. degree proposal in Applied Computer Science from SOS passed through the campus Academic Procedures and Policies Committee (APPC) with support from School of Informatics and School of Engineering and Technology. This working group also established a Computing Curriculum Co-ordination Council (C4) to have preliminary discussions about new computing-related courses and programs before campus-level discussions. Dean Rhodes thought that opportunities exist for similar groups with other schools. The third working group, related to the Health Campus idea, is ongoing and may involve independent evaluations of the financial relationships between the IU School of Medicine and the rest of the Indianapolis campus. With regard to space, Dean Rhodes observed that both volume and quality are still a challenge, in spite of the proposed new Science and Engineering Laboratory (SELB) building. The plans for the SELB building are progressing well, with scheduled construction beginning and ending in March, 2012 and March, 2014 respectively. He provided updates on several search and screen activities: the search committee for the chair of Psychology department submitted its final report and recommendation; the search process is underway for the Departments of Chemistry & Chemical Biology, and Mathematical Sciences. Dean Rhodes also mentioned on-going

discussions between Indiana University (IU) and Purdue University (PU) regarding the future of the SOS as a PU school. He felt that our university's long name sometimes causes confusion and some simplification may be desirable. In all aspects (employment, research fiscal, administration, promotion and tenure), we are IU but some of our degrees are academically PU. IU grants degrees by campus, whereas PU degrees are attributed to West Lafayette campus. The Indiana Commission of Higher Education (ICHE) asked PU and IUPUI to award campus-specific degrees. Recently, the PU administration declined to support our proposals for autonomous Ph.D. programs. Talks are on-going to convert SOS programs at IUPUI into IU degree programs. This may provide an opportunity for us to take complete ownership and responsibility for our work. Dean Rhodes reiterated that we at SOS provide a unique and first-class educational environment for our undergraduate and graduate students, combining outstanding classroom instruction with cutting-edge research opportunities, internships, honors programs, study communities, and peer mentoring, etc. Dr. Robert Rigdon, a retired faculty member from Mathematics, recently recognized SOS's commitment to education by making a generous contribution to establish a RISE fellowship. In addition, we continue to expand our world class research, outstanding graduate education, and service to the community. Examples of synergies between these various facets can be found on the SOS webpage, which includes stories such as Yogesh Joglekar's NSF CAREER award involving his mentorship of many students, Steve Boehm's awards at international meetings where he took his students to accompany him, Leonid Rubchinsky's outstanding research on Parkinson's disease and his efforts to integrate research into undergraduate and graduate education. Dean Rhodes also expressed a need to revisit the school's strategic plan and he will form a committee to discuss this. In response to Dean Rhodes' solicitation of questions from the attendees, Steve Randall asked if IU and PU discussions for possible realignment of SOS will assure independence for the school. Dean Rhodes answered that if SOS becomes an IU School of Science, this will be an important point that has already been emphasized by IU leadership. Ben Boukai expressed the opinion that we only have an illusion of independence now and even that can be taken away by PU in future. Boukai further asked if a possible transition for SOS from PU to IU will be agreed by ICHE. Dean Rhodes thought so. But he also cautioned that the process will not be trivial, since state laws and the Indiana legislature are involved.

- Associate Dean Doug Lees provided a brief update on the budget situation, which projects that SOS is well in the black. We are projected to have cash in hand at the end of the year, which will be used to fund new faculty research start-ups, building renovations, and the payments for the new SELB building. The SOS is undergoing an internal audit to identify possible risk areas. The auditors also met with the departments and payroll. The SOS priority enrollment for the Spring 2012 semester is down 2.8%, which is not too bad. Andy Gavrin recalled that last IT security audit was done under ex-Dean William Bosron. The report suggested that University Information Technology Services (UITS) create a template for assist units in responding to the review. Nowever, we still do not have any such template or any uniform recommendation from them.
- Associate Dean Kathy Marrs discussed student recruitment and admissions, reminding the faculty that the SOS budget largely comes from enrollments. She hoped that our retention and graduation rates will be also high. To facilitate this, SOS has set up a new student career services office with a new director. She is also involved in campus-wide discussions on pre-health student advising and a working group to study curricular issues with Ivy Tech and SLA. Regarding the NAD SOS/SLA working group in which she participated, she thought that overwhelmingly the faculty, staff, and students did not endorse the idea of a merger. The working group submitted its report to IUPUI Executive Vice Chancellor Uday Sukhatme. She said that the school's proposal for a new B.S. program in Neuroscience will be taken up by ICHE in the near future. Finally, she mentioned a new campus committee in which she is involved with regarding academic burdens. This initiative is an attempt to uncover and eliminate inefficient rules, procedures, and information systems. Steve Randall asked if the campus has a model for optimal number of students for departments and schools in the context of resource capacities. Marrs replied that there is no such scientific model, but the strategic plan recommends a slow, but steady increase in student number and quality. Jay

Siegel asked about the campus plans during the Super Bowl 2012, which is scheduled to be held in downtown Indianapolis next February. Marris replied that the campus is recommending alternate delivery of classes, but not necessarily canceling them during that time. Dean Rhodes has asked all chairs to come up with specific recommendations regarding this issue by December 7, 2011. Marris also informed the Assembly that the campus is recruiting a STEM director, for which candidate interviews were in progress. This position will be initially funded by Office of Vice Chancellor for Research and the role will be in attracting research and consortium grants.

- Associate Dean Dave Skalnik reported that the research expenditure of the School was 2.6 million dollars. As one of only 11 IU schools with research expenditure of more than 1 million dollars, the SOS is doing well in this area. The SOS business office is being further enhanced with the appointment of Mary Harden to assist in grant proposal submission and administration. Skalnik further informed the faculty that the deadline for IUCRG proposal submission was extended by a week. He also stated that the university ORA grant submission rule is that the ORA should receive a proposal 5 days before submission date, and the SOS business office needs it 2 days before that. ORA will take action against repeat offenders violating this rule.
4. Comments by the Faculty President. President Watson began with the SOS faculty by-laws regarding faculty governance. The by-laws specify three types of committees with SOS (Standing Faculty Committees, Standing Administrative/Faculty Committees, and Administrative Committees) and how the standing committee representatives are selected. Departmental representatives to the Unit Committee are to be elected by the faculty or by the Primary Committee if the Primary Committee is itself elected. For the other committees, department faculty need to approve the mechanism of selection. For example, assignment by department chair is fine if the faculty approved that mechanism. Faculty in all departments need to discuss issue. Ben Boukai observed that not all SOS departments have departmental by-laws. President Watson said he was aware that the Mathematical Sciences and Computer & Information Science departments have by-laws. Jay Siegel added that Psychology also has such a document, and the Chemistry & Chemical Biology is nearing a vote on their new by-laws document. President Watson encouraged all departments to generate by-laws, as it is especially important for junior faculty members. President Watson further informed that there may be administrative reviews for several administrators this academic year. He commented that the language in the SOS By-laws regarding the scheduling of administrator reviews is somewhat convoluted. He will propose simplifications to the SOS Steering Committee. President Watson was gravely concerned with the increase in the IU health care premiums. The IUPUI Faculty Council also discussed this issue. Watson noted that IUPUI Faculty President Jack Windsor does not believe that the university will roll back this year's premium increase. However, the SOS Steering Committee, representing the faculty, is in the process of drafting a letter or resolution to express prevalent faculty sentiments regarding the increase in premiums.
 5. President Watson discussed SOS representation on the IUPUI faculty council. The SOS has three representatives with staggered terms. President Watson is one of those three, and one of the other two asked to resign. In accordance with the SOS By-laws, the SOS Nominations and Awards (N&A) Committee was asked to nominate a replacement for the remainder of the unfinished term. The N&A committee unanimously selected Dr. Michael McLeish (Dept. of Chemistry & Chemical Biology). However, the appointment must be ratified by the faculty at the next Faculty Assembly (meaning today's Assembly). There was a call to vote to approve McLeish's appointment, and it was unanimously approved. President Watson thanked McLeish for agreeing to serve.
 6. Watson asked if there were any comments about the reports of SOS committees, distributed at the Assembly. There were no comments.
 7. President Watson moved to the topic of the SOS Promotion and Tenure (P&T) document revision. Last year's Unit Committee worked on the revisions, and President Watson thanked Ben Boukai (Chair, Unit Committee) and the rest of the committee for their efforts. There was an attempt last year to vote on these revisions, but some faculty members requested more time to discuss the proposed changes. Associate Dean of Faculties Mary Fisher also has added several comments recently

regarding certain sections of the document. Hence, the Steering Committee and the Dean jointly appointed an ad-hoc committee to finalize the revisions. The committee consists of the 7 current, elected, departmental representatives to the Unit Committee. Dr. Andy Barth (Dept. of Earth Sciences) was elected as the Chair of the ad-hoc committee. This committee will generate a final, revised version by the new-year. It is likely there will be a special Faculty Assembly to discuss the changes, followed by an electronic vote. The proposed changes will be organized into several groups: one group for changes mandated by campus guidelines, and other groups for other suggested changes. Voting is likely to take place separately for each group of changes.

- Michal Misiurewicz stated that there are different kinds of problems with the current P&T guidelines. These can be categorized into small, medium, and large problems. Small problems include grammatical errors. Medium problems include changing terminologies used for performance evaluation. Misiurewicz observed that in the past we did not use the same terms as the campus. He further stated the largest problem is that these guidelines require interpretation. He proposed that unimportant criteria be ignored and the the evaluation should be substantively at the department level. Performance should not be evidenced simply by a check-list. He also suggested that, somewhere in the P&T guidelines, language should be present that the criteria need to be communicated to the candidate. He proposed that it should be strictly forbidden to use any criteria with which a candidate is not specifically familiar. President Watson stated that all departments have departmental guidelines. Misiurewicz commented that it was not clear how these departmental guidelines are considered at the higher levels. He reiterated that certain criteria, such as student co-authorship on publications and membership on SOS committees, need to be communicated to newly hired faculty members. President Watson observed that these are mainly faculty development issues and departmental chairs should take the lead in such communication.
- Past President Mihran Tuceryan commented that it was not clear what and when feedback needs to be provided to a candidate during the P&T review process.
- Ben Boukai noted that the P&T document is evolving and deals with several sensitive issues. He noted that the SOS criteria can be more stringent than those used by campus. He discussed the 1 person - 1 vote proposal, saying that it could be confusing given that the departments vary in size and that the number of representatives in the Unit Committee from each department also varies (although one member is elected from each department, the Dean can appoint four additional members from any department). He noted that the Unit Committee is currently operating under the procedure that no representative can vote in the Unit Committee on a candidate from his/her department. Boukai felt that this is a good practice, considering the need for a spirit of fairness and equity for departments of different sizes. He felt that this rule has made the Unit Committee operation more efficient. President Watson suggested that the distribution of feedback documents should be addressed in the departmental by-laws.
- Alexander Its stated that, having served in the Unit Committee for over 20 years, he believed that no P&T document can be perfect. He stressed that we need to have trust in and be friendly to colleagues from other departments. For example, there are many variations in journal rankings between departments and impact factors may not be adequate to judge their quality.

8. New Business: None.

9. Old Business: None.

10. Motion to adjourn was approved at 10:30 a.m.

School of Science
Fall 2011 Faculty Assembly

Friday, November 11, 2011

9 a.m. -10:30 a.m.

Science Building, LD 010

AGENDA

1. Call to order and adoption of the agenda
2. Approval of Minutes of Spring 2010 Faculty Assembly (April 1, 2011)
To download the minutes go to:
<http://sos.science.iupui.edu/facultycouncil/FAMinutes.htm>
3. Reports from the Dean's administration
 - a. Dean Simon Rhodes
 - b. Associate Dean Doug Lees
 - c. Associate Dean Kathy Marrs
 - d. Associate Dean David Skalnik
 - e. Associate Dean Jeff Watt
4. Comments by Faculty President John Watson
5. Election of Faculty Council representative
6. Discussion of changes to P&T document and procedures
7. Committee reports: to be distributed at the Faculty Assembly
8. New business
9. Old business
10. Adjournment

SoS Assessment Committee Report Fall 2011

After departmental revisions of their undergraduate Student Learning Outcomes and the appropriate modification and updates to the ongoing assessment departmental reports, the 2010 – 2011 individual department annual assessments were submitted to Planning and Institutional Improvement. The individual department reports can be found at <http://www.planning.iupui.edu/64.html> under “School of Science” within the IUPUI School Assessment Reports .

Respectfully submitted by Pat Clark

Report of the Nominations and Awards Committee: Fall 2011
Yogesh Joglekar, Chair, Physics

Members include:

Randall Roper, Biology

Brenda Blacklock, Chemistry and Chemical Biology

Snehasis Mukhopadhyay, Computer and Information Science

Gary Rosenberg, Earth Sciences

Richard Tam, Mathematical Sciences

Leslie Ashburn-Nardo, Psychology

The Nominations and Awards Committee meets once during late Fall semester and multiple times during the Spring semesters. Since the Spring 2011 Faculty assembly, the committee nominated and unanimously voted Yogesh Joglekar as the Chair for 2012. This process was carried out via email.

In addition, the Committee approved the nomination of Dr. Mike McLeish, Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology, as the School of Science representative to the IUPUI Faculty Council. This was also carried out via email.

Respectfully submitted,
Yogesh N. Joglekar

SOS Research Committee Report, Fall, 2011

Regarding the research committee, the main duties this year have been distribution of Purdue Research Foundation awards. The following grants were awarded:

16 International Travel grants

2 Summer Faculty grants

1 Research grant

UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE (UEC) REPORT
April 2011 through September 2011

Committee members [in order by Department, Spring 2011]

John Watson (Biology, Chair), Barry Muhoberac (Chemistry and Chemical Biology), Snehasis Mukhopadhyay (Computer and Information Science), Jeffrey Swope (Earth Sciences), Bruce Kitchens (Mathematical Sciences), A.J. Rader (Physics), Kathy Johnson (Psychology)

Committee members [in order by Department, Fall 2011]

John Watson (Biology), Barry Muhoberac (Chemistry and Chemical Biology, Chair), Jiang Zheng (Computer and Information Science), Kathy Licht (Earth Sciences), Patrick Morton (Mathematical Sciences), A.J. Rader (Physics), Bethany Neal-Beliveau (Psychology)

Committee members from the Dean's Office: Kathy Marrs (Associate Dean, Liaison to the Committee), Joseph Thompson (Staff Aide to the Committee), Molly Rondeau (Staff Aide to the Committee)

Since the last report on April 1, 2011, the UEC considered the following items.

- 1) Three New Course Requests were approved:
 - *PSY 57600 Compensation and Training* This course is designed to provide information and to stimulate thinking in two areas: compensation and training. Each module is 8 weeks in length. In the compensation module, the major focus is on presenting information about how organizations determine job worth and provide financial rewards to individuals to achieve organizational objectives. A pay model provides the framework for this module and for understanding compensation systems. In the training module, the objectives are: to obtain knowledge concerning the major processes, components, and issues related to training in organizations; to master knowledge of the psychological processes involved in obtaining, maintaining, and transferring learned knowledge and skills. See attached New Course Request form for additional detail.
 - *BIOL-K416 Cellular and Molecular Neuroscience* This course is designed to provide an in-depth analysis of topics within the field cellular and molecular neuroscience. It will cover invertebrate and vertebrate neurobiology, cell and molecular biology of the neuron, neurophysiology, neuroanatomy, developmental neurobiology, regeneration and degeneration, learning and memory, and will include comparisons of neural mechanisms throughout the animal kingdom.
 - *SCI-I225 Mentor-Based Research Experience* This course is designed to capture on the academic record the research experiences in which students are engaged in an established program, including Diversity Research Scholars Program, LSAMP, MURI, and UROP.
- 2) The UEC reviewed and approved a change to the Department of Biology admission requirements for students who wish to transfer from University College (UCOL) or any other school at IUPUI, to an undergraduate degree program in Biology. The policy, as it existed, denied admission to any student who had repeated a course taught by the School of Science. UCOL requested a review of the requirement. The Department of Biology reviewed the policy

and approved removing this portion of the admission requirements. The UEC approved the change

- 3) The UEC reviewed applications from three students for admission to Interdisciplinary Studies Program. All three of the applications were denied with recommendations that the students pursue established majors.
- 4) Items currently under review
 - Course equivalency between GEOG-G107 *Physical Systems of the Environment* and GEOL-G110 *Physical Geology*
 - Pre-Professional Post-Baccalaureate Certificate
 - Review of SCI-I120 *Windows on Science* freshman learning community
 - Science Teacher Education paths to teacher certification