

2015 GRADUATE COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

December 3, 2015

The Chair called the meeting to order at 08:00.

Members Present: Ratna Sinha, Michael Eichholz, Boyd Goodson, Randolph Burnside, Cinzia Padovani, Richard McKinnies, Joseph Shapiro, Andrew Pardieck, Zhao Wanli, Amanda Barnard, Natalie Nash, John Barnard, Corné Prozesky, Tomas Velasco, Prema Narayan, Michael Brown, Silvia Secchi, Alison Watts, Norman Carver, Constantine Hatziaioniu, Johnathan Flowers, Julie Partridge.

In Springfield: Shelley Tischkan, Gary Giacomelli.

Members Absent:, Greg Rose, Kenneth Stickers, Cynthia Sims, Sandy Kim, Gray Whaley, Charles Ruffner, Conrad David, Dick Bradley, Wayne Glass.

Proxies: Hylin Michael for Greg Rose, Robert Hahn for Kenneth Stickers, Eric Holzmueller for Charles Ruffner.

Ex-Officio Members Present: James Garvey, Susan Ford, Brad Colwell, James Allen, Andy Wang.

Ex-Officio Members Absent: Randy Dunn, Yueh-Ting Lee.

Consideration of minutes

The minutes of the October meeting passed without amendments.

The minutes of the November meeting were passed without amendments.

Remarks – Provost Ford

Reported that enrollment numbers for the Spring semester are down. She explained that there are 900 fewer students registered for the Spring 2016 semester compared to the Spring 2015 semester. She clarified that the low numbers that carried over from the Fall 2015 semester also contribute to the low enrollment figures and that there are students who were enrolled for the Fall semester but will not rejoin SIU in the Spring semester. Dr Ford further explained that another factor that contributes to the low enrollment numbers are students who have not completed the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) training. Also, about 300 students have a medical hold over their registration, while others have a bursar's hold. She encouraged members of the Graduate Council to reach out to students and ensure that students clear the registration holds.

Dr Ford also reported that applications and admissions for the Fall semester are down. She attributed the low numbers to various reasons including the budget situation that prompts parents to consider other States for their children's higher education. She asked members of the Graduate Council to inform her office of any

information that pertains to reasons why parents and students may not be considering SIU.

Dr Ford further reported about the status of ongoing searches. She mentioned that the search committees for the Dean of Education and Human Services, and the Dean of the Business School are likely to schedule interviews early in the Spring semester. Interviews for the Executive Director of Extended Campus and Distance Education had been arranged for December 2015. However, the Library Dean search has been closed as the search committee deemed that no candidate met the requirements of the advertisement. The advertisement will be revised and reissued. She added that there were already 15 applications for the position of Director for the Centre for International Education.

B. Goodson asked whether other Illinois universities were over-enrolling students in order to cope with fiscal constraints. Dr Ford responded that the University of Illinois has announced that they are accepting more Illinois students and are adjusting/lowering their minimum standards. As such, the University of Illinois will take in a bigger pool of students impacting the ability of other higher education institutions to attract students.

R. Burnside spoke of a strategy used by the University of Missouri and the University of Kentucky to attract students from Illinois. The two universities are capitalizing on the current Illinois budget situation and are targeting parents telling them that the two universities have equalized fees to the Illinois rate. Dr Ford responded that faculty members should consider writing a weekly letter notifying the Illinois administration that they are destroying higher education in the State by having a budget that deeply slices education.

J. Flowers asked whether Dr Ford has enrollment numbers categorized by graduate and undergraduate enrollments. Dr Ford responded that there was a glitch in the program that is used to run numbers. She added that there would be better numbers by the Monday of the following week. She also explained that enrollment numbers for sophomores, juniors and Ph.D. students are up, while Masters, freshmen and seniors are down.

Dr Ford also spoke about three cooperative Ph.D. programs that SIUC has with SIUE in history, engineering and computer science that were approved in 1998. She explained that there were some difficulties with having the programs work efficiently in terms of how students register and pay. However, in the upcoming board meeting, the Board is slated to approve a revision that will fix the problems and smooth the running of the programs. The revision will also ease the process of starting new collaborative programs.

Remarks – Interim Chancellor B. Colwell

Reported that the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) meeting was a success and that certain SIUC programs were approved. He also reported that he had an opportunity to visit with Chancellors and Presidents of other Illinois universities about

the budget and that there is no movement. He added that January 30/31 has been identified as the deadline on which to have a budget.

He also reported that Dr Dunn spoke about out of State institutions coming into local community colleges and offering four-year degree completion programs. Dr Dunn's comments were well received by the other Presidents who share his concerns. Using John A. Logan as an example, Dr Colwell explained that SIU was not consulted about a Business Degree program although SIU has a program that is better and is accredited. SIU's assertion is that institutions coming in to service the community colleges should meet a minimum criteria.

Dr Colwell further reported about his meeting with a Chinese delegation in which a Memorandum of Understanding relating to programs within the School of Architecture, Mass Communication and Media Arts as well as Automotive Technology was signed.

Dr Colwell also spoke about the low enrollment numbers and added that the low numbers are not unique to SIU but that all Illinois universities are struggling. He also mentioned that he will be introducing his new scholarship in two community colleges on the day following the Graduate Council meeting.

Met with Chancellor's Scholars and got a sense of why the students came to SIU beyond just the free tuition. In conversation with Dr Colwell, the students mentioned that some of the reasons they chose SIU is because of the undergraduate research opportunities, class size, college experience and assistance they receive from faculty.

Dr Colwell also mentioned that he hopes to present his vision for 2016. He mentioned that he had been doing tours on campus.

S. Secchi asked why the research assistance for undergraduate students was cut if it's important for recruitment. Dr Garvey responded that undergraduate assistantships were not completely cut. He also mentioned that his office is running at about \$9 million deficit. He also added that \$1.5 million disappeared in the interim period before he took office. And, consistent with budget cuts across the university, his office also had a budget cut. What he protected were faculty start-ups because of commitments made to new faculty members when they joined the university. Undergraduate assistantships were funded from overhead return and were later funded by State dollars.

S. Secchi commented that the issue of undergraduate assistantships requires discussions and commitment on a higher level. Dr Garvey responded that between 1 000 and 1 500 undergraduate students are funded out of the Office of Sponsored Projects (OSPA) compared to the 200 students who receive funding through the undergraduate assistantships. He added that there are faculty members who have generously offered to use their grant funding to cover undergraduate assistantships. SIU still meets its responsibilities.

B. Goodson commented that undergraduates are not usually paid for research in other universities. And, cutting funding does not mean that undergraduate research will be discontinued.

M. Eichholz asked about the memo regarding the cut about journals. Dr Ford responded that the Library is going ahead with primary journal purchases. Dr Colwell added that attempts are being made to protect the core mission although there are cuts that should be made. He also spoke of requests from students that the lobby area on the first floor be kept open until 2am through the Spring semester.

J. Flowers asked Chancellor Colwell about his vision for the university. Dr Collwell responded that he is listening to Deans and other members of the university community and is shaping his vision. J. Flowers further asked when the Chancellor is going to get input from students and suggested that the Chancellor should have an open forum with the students. In response, Dr Colwell mentioned that he was hoping to work through student leaders in the Spring semester.

Remarks –Interim Vice Chancellor for Research Garvey

Dr Garvey reported that his office will not be asking for Research-Enriched Academic Challenge (REACH) applications until there is a budget. He hoped that by January 2016 there would be a better indication on budgetary issues.

C. Padovani asked whether there is a criminal investigation about the \$1.5 million that Dr Garvey said was missing. Dr Ford and Dr Garvey clarified that the money is not missing and is traceable. Dr Garvey added that \$1 million of the \$1.5 million went toward undergraduate research.

Dr Garvey also mentioned that there was confusion about the post-doc policy but added that there are changes that have been made to the policy. (A resolution was read, see page nine of this document).

Dr Garvey also spoke about Drones and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulations. He mentioned that in their capacity as SIU employees and students, people should not fly drones or any remotely flown vehicles. This is because drones are dangerous to people and to airplanes. He explained that there will be a questionnaire from OSPA asking about using drones in-doors. There are in door spaces where drones can be flown. The concern on the part of the university is insurance. Dr Ford added that drones are not presently covered under university insurance.

Remarks – Graduate School Dean Lee, read by Dr Ratna Sinha

Reported that on November 13, the Graduate School held the annual Fellows recognition ceremony in which Chancellor Colwell, Vice Chancellor Garvey and Dr Lee spoke to honor outstanding graduate scholars and researchers. There were 120 participants including graduate fellows, their family members, graduate faculty, staff and administrators. Dr Sinha also reported that the Graduate School on November 17, hosted a well-attended symposium on “Pathways to Graduate Schools and Career Success” by working with the office of Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity and the office of Career Services. She also mentioned that Deon

Thompson and Dr Lee on November 18 went to Harris-Stowe State University (which is a historical black university) for graduate recruitment and promotion of institutional relationship. Over 33 African American students expressed interest in considering SIU Carbondale for graduate education in the future.

Dr Sinha also mentioned that Nancy Vorhees was retiring after 30 years with SIU and that an event had been organized in her honor on December 10.

J. Barnard asked for clarification on whether doctoral fellowships for 2016 have been suspended or delayed. Dr Ford responded that she is going to have a discussion with Interim Chancellor Colwell about the fellowships and that a decision will be taken during the first week of December.

J. Flowers asked about the state funded grants for minority students. Dr Ford responded that there are several grants that come from the State and that the most significant is the Diversifying Higher Education Faculty in Illinois Program (DFI). There are also grants that come from the State to hire minority faculty. She added that the funds had not been released in 2015 and that there is no indication of whether the funds would be released.

Remarks – Associate Provost for Academic Programs, Dr Allen

Dr. Allen reported that the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) had approved the Masters of Health Informatics and Masters of Health Administration, two degree programs that were proposed by the School of Allied Health. Both programs will be offered in Fall 2016.

Dr Allen also spoke of the Complete College America initiative, a federal effort to assist undergraduate students with coursework such that they can promptly complete their studies (in four years rather than the average SIU undergraduate completion period of six and a half years). He explained that the IBHE is considering various ways to help students, including conducting prior learning assessments. Some students already have job experience and training that could be applied to academic credit. Other initiatives include co-remedial courses, particularly in mathematics and English composition. Illinois has been selected as part of 11 other States for a scale-up project for co-remediation in math. Also, SIU has a grant from the Lumina Foundation to experiment how the initiatives can be developed in other institutions beyond SIU.

Dr Allen also reported that under state statute, SIU ought to consider the meaning of Advanced Placement of scores for academic credit. Faculty must give a hard look at anything that is more than a 3 and specify what the score means. In other words, faculty must be more specific about what scores mean for credit, particularly scores that are prerequisites for upper division work. Details about scores are available on pages 35-37 of the undergraduate catalog. Currently, the catalog shows a 'score of 4 or 5'. This needs to be more specific.

He also reported that the IBHE had reviewed the matrix for low producing programs (low enrollments and low graduation rates) and have set the number for Masters Programs at 10 enrolled and five graduating every year; for PhDs there should be 15

students enrolled and two graduating. He added that SIU will be reporting on a two year cycle rather than annually. The next reporting period is Spring 2017.

Finally Dr Allen mentioned that SIU may have to think about accelerated Masters as a way to increase access for undergraduate students as a retention effort. Dr Allen is working with Dean Lee on clarifying specifications about the kinds of accelerated degree programs can SIU offer.

Dr Allen also spoke briefly about the WAVA training.

B. Goodson asked for clarification about the final enrollment numbers that have been approved by the IBHE. Dr Allen responded that for undergraduates the number is at least 40 enrolled and 9 graduates each year, 10 masters students enrolled and 5 graduates each year, and 15 doctoral students enrolled and 3 graduated each year.

B. Goodson also asked what the IBHE would require from SIU should one of its programs fail to meet the minimum requirements. Dr Allen responded that the program will be flagged for priority review and the university may eventually lose authorization to offer the degree.

Remarks – Graduate Council Chair Eichholz

Program prioritization - Dr Eichholz reported they have formed a Joint Task Force of Academic Priorities. In its first meeting, they divided the Joint Task Force into three sub-committees. The first subcommittee will identify quantitative criteria, the second will identify qualitative criteria and the third will work closely with the second sub-committee to craft a vision statement and identify criteria that might make a program uniquely important to SIUC such as the socio-economic conditions of the surrounding region, the geographic area in which SIUC is located, or the level of duplication of the program within Illinois higher education as well other factors that might make a program uniquely important to SIUC. The Joint Task Force hopes that the committee will identify things that make SIUC unique from other Tier 1 Research Institutions and may have programs because of that uniqueness that should be supported. The vision will incorporate issues that should be included in the context of program prioritization. The three committees will start their work promptly and will meet again in early January.

C. Hatziadoniu asked whether the Task Force is considering the IBHE criteria. Dr Eichholz responded that they are following the charge memo, which stipulates that the IBHE criteria should be followed.

Title IX Requirements – Guest Speaker, Dr Linda McCabe

She commented that the training is mandatory and suggested that those who have concerns should lobby the State. She stressed that the requirement is that all employees on campus should do the training. She also mentioned that the majority of undergraduate and graduate students have taken the test compared to employees. She commented that she is aware of negative complaints particularly about the length of the training. She explained that the Title IX training is new to the education

sector and that there are new vendors. She also explained that the vendor SIU uses was the best at the time of selection and will be reviewed in 2016.

N. Nash asked whether the training is all video based. Dr McCabe responded that all the training is all online.

N. Nash further commented that online training is easy to ignore. Dr McCabe responded that there were complaints about the length of the face-to-face training and people had asked for online training.

S. Secchi asked whether SIU is getting its getting value for money and why it is that people who do not need the training can test out or whether some vendors should not offer a tiered approach. Dr McCabe responded that testing out of the training is not currently an option and that things are constantly changing (the reason the training is mandatory). She also explained that vendors get comments from people who have taken the training and continue to make modifications.

M. Eichholz mentioned that the training programs in other institutions are not as lengthy. He asked where there are instructions about what should be included in the training. He also asked whether the training should not be more streamlined and better targeted at people with different knowledge levels. Dr McCabe responded that her office is looking at ways to improve the training. She also showed members of the Graduate Council the document that details what should be included in the training. Dr Ford also commented that in 2014 SIU was the only institution in Illinois that chose the face-to-face training. She added that the training was time consuming, expensive and attracted numerous complaints from faculty and staff about the content. She added that there was a dictate from upper administration that Dr McCabe should find a single product with training that everyone could take online.

J. Barnard asked about the timing of the training and suggested that the training should be shifted to the beginning of the semester rather than the end. Dr McCabe agreed that the training should be done early.

Remarks – GPSC, A Barnard

Ms Barnard reported that GPSC had passed a resolution in favor of having a 24 hour study lounge with no specified location. Dr Colwell commented that they had considered having the 24 hour study area at the library. Ms Barnard explained that the student center would be preferred because of its Wi-Fi possibilities. Dr Ford commented that irrespective of the location of the 24 hour study area two students are still required to monitor the area and that the expense is the same irrespective of the location.

N. Nash asked whether the library would have to finance the 24 hour arrangement if located at the library. Dr Ford explained that the library would not pay for the extended study hours.

Continuing with her report, Ms Barnard spoke about the GPSC budget and how the budget is used to fund students who wish to host events and those who require travel

assistance to conferences. She also mentioned that the application period for the *GPSC Cares* initiative (an initiative to assist students lower their bursar bills to below \$200) has closed. She stated that GPSC had helped 11 graduate students reduce their bills such that they could register for the Spring semester. Ms Barnard also reported that GPSC ensured that *Kaleidoscope*, a graduate students journal could be published and that students at the Communications Department could take the journal to their national conference.

Nominations to Committees/Announcements – Council Vice Chair, B. Goodson

Reported that he had found two people to serve on the search committee for the Center for International Education. He added that he was still looking for one graduate faculty member to be part of the committee. Dr Ford added that applications close on the 18th and the search cannot move forward until a full committee is formed.

Standing Committee Reports

New Programs Committee Report – Professor Watts

First reading:

Graduate Council Resolution in support of Renaming the Master of Science in Fire Service and Homeland Security Management. There were no questions or concerns. The second reading of the resolution will be done during the February meeting.

Second reading:

Addition of a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in College Teaching Resolution. The Graduate Council voted to approve the resolution – 22 in favor, 0 abstention, 0 opposed. **Resolution passed.**

- Addition of a Masters of Arts in Pharmacology and Neuroscience. The Graduate Council voted to approve the resolution – 22 in favor, 0 abstention, 0 opposed.

Resolution passed.

- Renaming of the Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Addiction Studies.

B. Goodson asked for clarification on what it means for the term substance abuse to be considered “no longer accurate” as stated in the resolution. J. Nichols responded that the term has been removed from the diagnostic descriptor and that the term ‘abuse’ is not being used anymore because it is too difficult to determine what is abuse and what is not, whereas substance use is easier to categorize. Substance use, she explained is a disorder defined by a different set of characteristics. The Graduate Council voted to approve the resolution – 22 in favor, 0 abstention, 0 opposed. **Resolution passed.**

Program Review Committee Report, Professor Velasco

First reading: Graduate Council Resolution Recommending Approval of the Program Review Process described in the Revised Program Review Overview Document.

T. Velasco explained that at its last meeting, the Graduate Council approved a resolution for the accreditation review process and that there were two documents that described the protocols for review and accreditation.

B. Goodson asked whether there were any substantial differences in the wording of the document. T. Velasco responded that the word 'colleagues' has been removed since the word tended to restrict who could volunteer to do an internal program review.

The second reading of the resolution will be done during the February meeting.

**Research Committee Report, Professor Narayan
First Reading:**

Graduate Council Resolution to Rescind Previous Resolution on a new Postdoctoral Fellow Classification.

The second reading of the resolution will be done during the February meeting.

Education Policies Committee Report, Professor Shapiro

Reported that the committee is working on a resolution that recommends the transfer of credits from non-accredited institutions. The committee will draft a resolution for the next meeting of the Graduate Council.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 09:48