

MEETING OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL

Southern Illinois University Carbondale

February 7, 2008

Members and Administrative Officers Present:

Marcia Anderson, Ronald Browning, David Carlson (ex-officio), Brad Colwell, Ann Fletcher, Scott Gilbert, Ramesh Gupta, Eric Hellgren, Andrew Hofling, Maryon King, Pat Manfredi, Janet Maher, Shelly McGrath, John Preece, Jyotika Ramaprasad, Jonathan Remo (GPSC), Karen Renzaglia, Don Rice, Prudence Rice, Peggy Stockdale, Alejandro Strong (GPSC) Spyros Tragoudas, Karl Williard, and David Wilson.

Absent: Thomas Britton, John Koropchak, John Mead, Christian Moe, Manoj Mohanty, Donna Post, Fernando Treviño, and Michael Young.

Prof. Tragoudas called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. in the Kaskaskia/Missouri Rooms of the Student Center and welcomed members. Dean Wilson announced the following proxies: John Foster for Scott McClurg who is on sabbatical for spring semester.

1. Consideration of the minutes of the November 29, 2007 Graduate Council Meeting

A motion was made by Professor Anderson and seconded to approve the minutes of November 29, 2007.

2. Remarks – Chancellor Treviño

Chancellor Treviño was not present.

3. Remarks – Provost Rice

Provost Rice announced the National Accreditation Review was held for the Masters Degree in Architecture. They were very impressed with the Master's program and also the 4 year undergraduate program.

Vice Chancellor Koropchak and Chancellor Treviño are discussing the possibility of reinstating the faculty hiring initiative. This is a competitive process where proposals are made by colleges for hiring faculty in a particular specialty or area, or to hire someone who can collaborate with people in other departments to create synergy. The level of funding is unknown at this time. The Chancellor's office has provided approximately \$1 million dollars in previous years to fund expansion lines. This program was in abeyance for a year because of the budget. We would propose a competition during spring semester; searches will take place in FY09 with hiring in FY10. The Chancellor is in favor of this,

but there is a question of the level of funding and how many positions can be supported under the revived initiative.

The review process of the Southern at 150 Document is in process by the Vice Chancellors and others. This document was meant to be dynamic and a review process was built into the document. Each Vice Chancellor has been given the charge to go through the document and look at the commitments, objectives, goals and targets that are most pertinent to their areas. During this process we are to determine if targets are realistic, how much we have progressed, and how much we still need to do. The plan is to review the document in a day long meeting and discuss the overall document and where it may need additional work. The Chancellor recommends that after the document has been reviewed and we are comfortable and have a sense of what needs to be done, the document would then reviewed by individuals in the original theme groups. They would review the original report and make recommendations for changes that need to take place. The document will then be turned over to the constituency groups. It is hoped that the Chancellor would have received any recommendations for revisions to the document by the end of spring semester.

In answer to the question of when the search for the permanent provost will take place, Provost Rice stated it was his understanding that there would be a period of time during which Chancellor Treviño would become comfortable with the university and understand his staff's responsibilities. The President and the Chancellor would then make the decision as to when a new provost would be selected. Provost Rice stated he has not heard anything at this time about a search.

4. Announcements – Vice Chancellor Koropchak, Associate Vice Chancellor Rice, and Associate Deans Wilson & Mead

Vice Chancellor Koropchak

Vice Chancellor Koropchak was not present.

Associate Vice Chancellor Rice

Associate Vice Chancellor Rice reported she has just returned from three weeks in the field. The seed grant proposals will be reviewed next week. AVC Rice reported that staff from her office and Vice Chancellor Koropchak's office are preparing for the annual research town meeting which will be held on April 1.

Dean Wilson

Dean Wilson noted that Barbara Meier, a long-time associate director of the graduate school passed away this week. He noted that she was a woman of incredible integrity and strong will and I am very sorry to announce her passing.

On behalf of John Koropchak, Dean Wilson reported that research at Southern Illinois University has received attention by way of front page stories and editorials in the Southern Illinoisan recently. The community is beginning to understand that research and research endeavors at the university have a powerful impact on the region. This is a positive sign and points to importance of increases in research activity that we have seen in recent years and a testimonial to faculty and staff.

Congressman Costello and representatives from various federal agencies have been asked to attend the Research Town Meeting to talk about potential grant possibilities.

The graduate enrollment group has been meeting and discussing alternative ways of delivering existing programs – on-line, an executive MBA mode, or continuing education format. This is a way of reaching out to other markets to find potential graduate students.

Spring enrollments are up from this time last year which is a testimonial to departments, faculty and recruitment endeavors. Programs have been asked to prepare strategic plans focusing on graduate enrollment. We have received about 60-70% at this time and hope to receive all by February 1 so that we may have an impact on future graduate enrollment.

SIUC faculty, Prof. Punit Kohli and Prof. Mercedes Calbi were recently announced as National Science Foundation Award winners.

John Koropchak and John Mead were contacted to attend a meeting with the governor's staff to discuss the new advanced energy and interdisciplinary research building. At this time, we are hoping that the situation with FutureGen will not impact the plans for the proposed research building.

The Doctoral and Morris fellowships are circulating at this time. Next Friday is the deadline for the Master's fellowship. We continue to be very impressed with the quality of graduate students we see on this campus.

5. Faculty Senate – Professor Stockdale

Prof. Stockdale reported that Dr. Viswanathan has been appointed as the Interim Dean for the College of Engineering and she is now President of the Faculty Senate. In addition, Dave Worrells who is secretary to the Faculty Senate is on a year-long sabbatical. Elections will be held at the next meeting to fill the

vice president and secretary role and some committee vacancies as well. Objectives this semester include taking a look at OTS funding changes over the last few years, as well as reviewing the proposal for offering instate tuition to bordering states and providing feedback to the Chancellor's office.

6. Announcements – Professor Tragoudas

Prof. Tragoudas announced that Karen Renzaglia will be the program director at NSF next year.

7. Nominations to Committees – Professor Colwell

Prof. Colwell had no committees to report on at this time, but announced he will be the representative at the Faculty Senate meetings this semester.

8. GPSC Report – Shelly McGrath

Ms. McGrath had nothing to report at this time.

9. Report of Programs Committee – Professor Hofling

Prof. Hofling reported the committee is meeting to consider a new master's in civil engineering.

Prof. Anderson stated she recently read an article in the DE about a new Fire Science Master's degree. Dean Wilson stated the program is under consideration; however, there are questions as to how to staff the program. Provost Rice stated that the program will be delivered off-campus through CASA. Start-up funds are needed to have the program developed. There have been discussions with the President's office for an internal loan to provide the start-up funds. The loan requires a repayment plan and at this time, the college has not prepared a business plan for the degree. It is still in the talking stage.

10. Report of Research Committee – Professor Renzaglia

Prof. Renzaglia reported that the research committee has met and discussed many issues. There have been discussions about a possible incentive program for researchers. Peer and aspirational peer institutions were contacted regarding this issue. We received 9 responses out of 12. While none of them had any incentive programs, West Virginia, Oklahoma State and Ohio University stated they returned indirect costs back to the PI. Ohio University returned 22.75% back to the PI. We are continuing the discussion, but the committee feels it would not be worthwhile unless at least 5% is returned. We are working on a recommendation and some general guidelines. In addition, we asked the

institutions if they waived graduate tuition for RA's on grants. Four institutions indicated they waived tuition, and four required faculty to put tuition on the grant. We are still exploring the cost of requiring tuition on grants. Prof. Renzaglia also announced a meeting will be held on February 26 to discuss vivarium costs.

11. Report of Program Review Committee – Professor Anderson

Program reviews have been completed and the final program external review completed for the graduate programs in MCMA. The committee will be working on the two page summary for the internal and external reviews.

12. Report of Educational Policies Committee – Professor McClurg

Prof. Tragoudas announced that Prof. McClurg is on sabbatical and Prof. Manfredi will be chairing the Educational Policies Committee. Prof. Manfredi stated he had nothing to report at this time.

13. Old Business: There were no old business items to discuss.

14. New Business:

Prof. Fletcher announced there will be an interdisciplinary symposium held on February 28 and 29 featuring Nobel Laureate and political activist Wole Soyinka. Information can be found on the Continuing Education website under conferences. This is free for faculty, staff and students with ID.

Professor Stockdale reported there will be a panel discussion on academic integrity, today at 4 p.m., at the Old Baptist Foundation featuring Professor McCabe from Rutgers University. The panel also includes faculty from the Psychology department.

As there was no further business to report, Professor Tragoudas declared the meeting adjourned at 8:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna L. Reynolds
Recording Secretary