

## **Graduate Council 2021-22**

**October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

**Members present:** Iraklis Anagnostopoulos, Amaka Anaza, Randy Burnside, Lingguo Bu, Phillip Chu, Buffy Ellsworth, Craig Gringrich-Philbrook, Usha Lakshmanan, Liliana Lefticariu, Adrienne Long, Matt McCarroll, Trish McCubbin, Caleb McKinley, Rachel Nozicka, Ed O'Donnell, Kyle Plunkett, Bethany Rader, Sophia Ran, Thomas Shaw, Breanna Whitley

**Ex-Officio:** Lizette Chevalier, Gary Kinsel, Meera Komarraju, Stephan Shih

**Guests:** Ken Anderson, Joe Cheatwood, Judy Davie, Nelson Fernandes, Doug Franklin, Wago Kreider, Jiyong Lee, Sarah Lewison, Julie Lindsey, JD Tanner

**Shaw:** Good morning, everyone. Consideration of the minutes?

No corrections given

**Shaw:** Motion to approve the minutes?

Moved

Seconded

**Minutes approved (13-0-0)**

### **Remarks from the Provost:**

**Komarraju:** Good morning, everyone. I have a few updates today. One is that we are in the process for selection for Deans for the College of Arts and Media and the College of Liberal Arts. We also have searches for 20 new faculty that were approved for Fall 2022. All of those are going on right now. In terms of recruitment, we are already counting down to Fall 2022. Right now, our freshman applications are at 1765, which is 48% higher than same time last year. In terms of on-campus transfer students, we have 375 applications, up 23% and 107 actionable applications, which is down .9%. In terms of admitted students, we have 90 admitted students, which is 15.4% up. In terms of off-campus transfer students, we have 50 applications-up 76%-and 22 actionable apps- up 69%-and 17 admitted, which is up 41%. In terms of graduate students, we have 112 applications so far, which is up 75%, compared to same time last year. We've admitted 19 of those students, which is a 19% increase. These numbers are trending in the right direction, but we need to make sure the admitted students register. Along those lines, there is an open house scheduled for October 11<sup>th</sup>, a SIU Day on October 20<sup>th</sup> and another open

house in November. I also recently came back from a 3-day trip to Chicago with a large team of admissions. We spent a lot of time connecting with Chicago public schools. We are working to create pipelines for students from those schools to come to SIU. Finally, I want to thank instructors who are working hard with managing students and classrooms, despite a challenging time. The Provost's Office is telling instructors that there is no expectation to accommodate students who are not complying with the vaccine mandate.

### **Questions for the Provost:**

**Shaw:** A lot of the students take online courses. Do they lose their D2L account?

**Komaraju:** I can look into that. Right now, I don't have the answer.

**Shaw:** If they were suspended but were still able to submit their assignments, are we obligated to grade those?

**Komaraju:** It's not required.

**Lefticariu:** All my classes are on online. If a student is suspended and not able to attend classes, are they able to finish the class from the materials on D2L?

**Komaraju:** This is up to the instructor.

**Lefticariu:** There's nothing in my syllabus to address penalties for missing classes. How do I address this?

**Komaraju:** That's up to the instructor.

### **Remarks from the Vice Chancellor of Research:**

**Kinsel:** I have some brief remarks. First thing I want to mention is that we've managed to fill some staff positions. We have new staff in Research Compliance. The staff support for the HSC is Sarah Cronline and the staff support for the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee is Chris Massie. This is the first time since I've been in this office that both positions are filled. I will also mention that Jennifer Cook is now the Director of the Animal Laboratory Program. She has a veterinary background, so she's a good fit for this program. The SIU System hired new export control, based on the Carbondale campus. The person that filled this position is Brenda Martin; she is located in Woody. The Illinois Innovation Network is running another Sustaining Illinois Grant Program. The deadline for the application is December 6<sup>th</sup>. This funding opportunity requires that you have a collaboration with an IIN hub, which is basically all the universities in the state. There's this entity that we've been a part of since the beginning, something called Research Enabled. It is a website portal for connecting industrial research opportunities with academic researchers. They are hosting an event to connect faculty with a particular company.

The company's name is Nidec Motor Company and they are having a hybrid event, which will be hosted by the Missouri University of Science and Technology. It's October 21<sup>st</sup> from 10-noon. Nidec plans to discuss their research plans. I'm hoping this will be the start of many more opportunities. The IIN is hosting their 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Sustainability Research Conference on October 29<sup>th</sup>. The host is the University of Illinois Springfield, but it is a virtual conference. I know we had a number of our students and faculty present at the last one. Finally, I want to announce some exciting news. We received notification over the summer that we had received funding through the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity for a wetlabs programs. This is a 2.7 million dollar award that will go towards launching a facility in the McLafferty Annex. This facility will consist of a biotechnology lab, an analytical and instrumentation lab, and a business development annex. If you put this money with the other awards we have received, this facility is moving in the direction of being between a 12-15 million dollar research facility.

### **Remarks from Associate Dean and Director of the Graduate School:**

**Shih:** Good morning, everyone. I have a few quick updates. The Grad School hosted the Directors of Grad Studies workshops last month. We had 60 attendees on the first day and 40 on the second. We reviewed the policies and procedures of the graduate school operations, like admissions, registrations, final paper submissions, and graduation. We are going to be meeting with each college at a time to discuss grad school operations. We are doing it this way due to the college and program specifics of each college. I think these meeting will remove the silos between the units and organizational and operational efficiency. The second event the Grad School hosted was the 2021 Assembly of Fellows. We had 45 fellowship recipients. They were joined by the deans and faculty across campus. The deans and recipients had a chance to say a few words. The next event is a workshop for the research paper, thesis, and dissertation info sessions. There was one hosted by Rose Moroz on October 6<sup>th</sup> and the second one will be held on October 7<sup>th</sup>. There's a deadline to submit the Willis Schwartz Graduate Student Scholarship Award, which is October 12<sup>th</sup>. The preference of the applicants is going to be given to international or incoming graduate students.

### **Report from Chair:**

**Shaw:** I'd like to highlight a couple of things before the research spotlight. The Chancellor, Provost, President of Faculty Senate, and myself have been touring the colleges; it's mainly a meet and greet, but we are also taking about the five pillars. This precedes the document that will be discussing the five pillars. The search for the Chief Information Officer is ongoing; there are 3 interview candidates. I am unable to make one of them, so I need someone here to show

up in my place and ask a predetermined question. It would be greatly appreciated. Now, let's turn it over to the research spotlight, Junghwa, would you like to introduce our first speaker.

**Lee:** From the new College of Arts and Media, Professor Jiyong Lee is a studio artist and professor of art at SIU. He has directed the glass program since 2005. Born and raised in South Korea, he earned his Master's in Fine Arts from the Rochester Institute of Technology in New York and taught there for a few years before teaching at SIU. Professor Lee has won a number of honors and his work has been exhibited and collected nationally and internationally.

**Lee:** Let me share my screen. I do a lot of glass work. I'm fascinated by how cells develop and I draw inspiration from this to my work with the layering of the glass. I also think about the ongoing changes in gene mutation, and I represent this with different colors. There's also layers to cities; I think where I grew up had an impact on my work. Here are some works that were inspired by developing embryos and chromosomes. In 2017, I was invited to make a commission for Chanel. They had an exhibit in Seoul and invited me to make a work of their motif, the Camellia flower. When Coco Chanel started the company, she started using the flower. To me, the Camellia flower symbolizes the power inside. The translucent white layers in my work mysteriously show what's inside. I was also invited by Samsung designers to a glass workshop. They invited 15-20 designers and I worked in small groups. Through the pandemic, I've had a lot of time to view the sky, and this has inspired some new work. I've supervised many MFA students and many of them are now working as professors. We have a one semester long residency program, where we invite one artist for the fall semester.

**Shaw:** Next, we have a student presentation. Mr. Fernandes first came on our radar when Gary had mentioned an award he had received. Nelson Fernandes is a senior in Mechanical Engineering at SIU, as well as a Stanford University Innovative Fellow. As an agent of change, Nelson collaborated with Dr. John Groninger and the College of Agricultural over the past 2 years for transforming the SIU green roof into a multidisciplinary innovative hub for participatory learning through implementing design-thinking principles. Nelson fostered an interdisciplinary, cross-university team of students to design clean energy and machine learning technology for implementation. In May 2021, the green roof team installed their temporary wind turbine on the SIU Agricultural building for inspiring current and future salukis to explore their passion on the green roof. I'm pleased to welcome Mr. Fernandes.

**Fernandes:** Thank you for the introduction and for having me today. Have you ever had a project that you either didn't finish or could've improved upon? I'm guessing yes. I had an idea a few years ago for a green roof that would build connections between students and faculty conducting their own research and having the space to be innovation and multidisciplinary, because we believe that passion can drive passion. In the beginning, we asked what opportunities we can find on the green roof. Being a research institution, we are guiding ourselves more and more towards a research pathway. Based on the discussions, we discovered that there were two areas of opportunities: building awareness and showcasing different opportunities. We believe that showing how the green roof can lead to opportunities

is more clear-cut. As a result, we began looking into different engineering designs that could help showcase hands-on work. We were able to host some workshops to brainstorm how to create and promote this space. From these workshops, we were guided towards a strong marketing campaign to build awareness as well as showcasing our opportunities through clean energy projects. Within clean energy, we decided to showcase a wind turbine, because it's very prominent. We want to draw students' attention. This will get student wondering how they can get involved in the green roof. We've installed irrigation system that is tied to the turbine and we are currently working on solar panel installation. In the past 2 years, we were focused on the initiation of the project and now we are focusing on promoting the usage of the space. We want the green roof to be available to all on campus.

**McCubbin:** What are your plans for after senior year?

**Fernandes:** I know I'm passionate about clean energy and working in a group to create change. Right now, I'm looking at graduate school opportunities, as well as different companies.

### **Report from GPSC:**

**McKinley:** From GPSC, we just had our first meeting. I want to remind you all that we have funds available for students presenting at conferences, up to \$75 if you are attending or up to \$150 if presenting. I would also like to thank Dr. Craig Gingrich-Philbrook for meeting with us to discuss issues with the academic grievance policy and helping us assist some of our students in regards to previous cases that we saw last year.

### **Report from Faculty Senate:**

**Rader:** At our last meeting, we had a presentation by Chancellor Lane that shared information on continuing efforts and improvements to student recruiting, SIU Covid policy, and the opening of the faculty lounge. The Provost reported welcoming two new deans-CALPS Dean Eric Brevik and CHHS Dean Robert Morgan- as well as 24 new faculty members this fall. She also talked more about working with the GAU. She also talked about her office receiving new college operating papers for approval, which is moving forward after reorganization. During committee reports, Faculty Senate approved five new RME's, including adding a minor in Business Analytics, adding a specialization in Financial Economics to a BS in Economics, consolidating 4 specializations into 1 specialization in International Studies for the BA in Languages, Cultures, and International Studies, changing the name of the BS in Fashion Design and Merchandising to a BS in Fashion Studies, and removing the Public Service specialization in Political Science. The Committee on Committees presented 2 volunteers for search committees: Marcus Odom for the search committee for the Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration and Michael Eichholtz for the search committee for the Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Dean.

Finally, VCR Kinsel gave a very similar presentation to Faculty Senate, as was given to Grad Council at the last meeting.

### **Report from Vice Chair:**

**Lee:** As the Faculty Senate meeting in September, I mentioned the research spotlight that Graduate Council is holding again this year and inviting anyone to attend as guests.

### **Report from New Programs Committee:**

**Ran:** the committee met a week ago. We discussed 4 RME's. The first one talks about renaming the Advanced Coal and Energy Research Center to Advanced Energy Institute. We found this quite logical. The motivation for renaming is due to the changes in sources of energy; the source of coal is somewhat diminishing. There is a need and development of non-traditional resources. No one on the committee has any objections; everyone voted 'yes'.

**Shaw:** Since this is an institute, there aren't any major faculty votes. Do we have a motion to accept?

Moved

Seconded

**Shaw:** Any discussion?

### **Resolution to Recommend Approval of the RME to Rename the Advanced Coal and Energy Research Center as the Advanced Energy Institute passes (18-0-0)**

**Ran:** The next one is a proposal to eliminate the MS Supply Chain Management and Engineering Program. This program was established in 2016, as a joint degree in the colleges of Business and Engineering and back in that time they had a very good rationale to do this. In full intention to implement this program, the priorities of both colleges changed. There were no students enrolled in this program and it looks like both colleges changed directions. There are no consequences in budget or teaching.

**Shaw:** The faculty vote was 12-0-4, so it looks like there is tremendous support. Is there a motion?

Moved

Seconded

**Shaw:** Is there anyone from the affected units who would like to speak on this?

**Anaza:** I am from the College of Business and it does affect them. The Supply Chain Management is housed in Business and this is a unanimous supported decision from the department that it affects.

**McCubbin:** In the future, it would be great to include the faculty votes in the RME's.

**Ran:** I can do that.

**Resolution to Recommend Approval of Elimination of MS Supply Chain Management and Engineering Program passes (18-0-0)**

**Ran:** Next is the RME to merge School of Medicine departments. This one is a little more extensive. This is a part of the larger program to merge basic sciences in SOM; in this case, we are talking about the departments localized in Carbondale. The motivation for this merging is being able to attract more applicants and it would be more efficient in administration. This discussion has been ongoing for a few years. There will be no impact on existing faculty, either tenure or non-tenure. In terms of budget, there may be a minimal effect. There is no impact on the curriculum. It is expected that collaboration among the departments will strengthen.

**Shaw:** The faculty vote was 18-0-0. The College Curriculum vote was 24-0-0. Is there a motion?

Moved

Seconded

**Shaw:** Is there any input from the School of Medicine?

**Davie:** I'm Judy Davie from the Biochemistry department and I also have Joe Cheatwood here from the Anatomy Department. We are representing 2 of the 3 departments that are being merged. Everything that Dr. Ran said was correct. We all support this. It's worth noting that the SOM in Carbondale started as one department and now we feel that it is an appropriate time to move back into one department.

**Resolution to Recommend Approval of the RME to Merge SOM Departments passes (19-0-0)**

**Ran:** The next one is renaming Touch of Nature Environmental Center to Touch of Nature Outdoor Education Center. The reason that was felt as to why the name is misleading is due to the center not directly dealing with environmental issues. The name new would be more precise and accurate. The focus on education and outdoors are important to the center, hence the proposed name. There will be a minimal budget expense, due to changing the name of

signs and such, but the monies have already been secured through the SIU Foundation. There should be no impact on existing staff. The committee found no reason not to support this.

**Shaw:** There were no faculty votes for this. Do we have a motion?

Moved

Seconded

**Shaw:** Do we have any members from this center?

**Tanner:** Yes, I'm JD Tanner and I'm the director of Touch of Nature. Sophia said it perfectly, so I have nothing to add but would be happy to answer any questions.

**McCubbin:** I have a comment for Dr. Ran. There are really helpful little tidbits in these resolutions. Nicely done.

**Resolution to Recommend Approval of Touch of Nature Environmental Center to Touch of Nature Outdoor Education Center passes (20-0-0)**

### **Report from Research Committee:**

**Chu:** No report.

### **Report from Program Review Committee:**

**O'Donnell:** No report

### **Report from Educational Policies Committee:**

**Gingrich-Philbrook:** For members on the Ed. Policies Committee, I'm looking to set up a meeting to talk about the resolution with Caleb and Diana. I'll also be asking you to look at issues regarding maximum number of outside members.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:39 AM**



