

## MEETING OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL

Southern Illinois University Carbondale

December 17, 2009

### **Members and Administrative Officers Present:**

Sara Baer; Gargi Bhattacharya (GPSC); Thomas Britton; Judith Davie; Ann Fletcher; John Dobbins; Daniel Dyer; Anne Fletcher; Samuel Goldman; Eric Hellgren; Jodi Huggenvik; Holly Hurlburt; Scott Ishman; Kimberly Kempf-Leonard (Jennifer Dunn); Mark Kittleson; John A. Koropchak; Scott McClurg; Shauna McDonald (GPSC); Jay Means (Deans Council); Christian Moe (George Brown); Manoj Mohanty; Nancy Mundschenk; Ryan Netzley; Mark Peterson (Pete Mykytyn); Elyse Pineau; William Stevens; Kenneth Stickers; Alicia Swan; Keith Waugh, David Wilson; Tomasz Wiltkowski.

### **Members and Administrative Officers Absent**

David Carlson; John Groninger; Phillip Howze; Leslie Lloyd; Don Rice; Prudence Rice; Bryan Young.

Chairman Hellgren called the meeting of the Graduate Council to order on December 17, 2009 at 8:00 a.m. in the Missouri/Kaskaskia Room of the Student Center.

**Announcement of Proxies** – David Wilson announced the proxies as: George Brown for Christian Moe and Pete Mykytyn for Mark Peterson.

#### 1. **Consideration of minutes of the November 5, 2009 Graduate Council meeting.**

Motion was made, seconded and passed for approval of the previous meeting minutes.

#### 2. **Remarks – Chancellor Goldman**

Chancellor Goldman made the following remarks:

1. There was an infusion of funds from the State; we will be okay through February and when tuition money starts flowing in we will be okay for this fiscal year.
2. Our budget this year was reasonably sound and ready when the cash flow problem with the State hit. We will not close and we will meet every class scheduled to meet.
3. Enrollment is up in an upward trend; as of December 14<sup>th</sup>, we are 85% of last year for Spring Semester; freshmen registered are up 104%, sophomores are at 98%, which speaks to retention efforts.

4. One concern is loss of students at junior and senior level with 91% of juniors registered; problems continue at the senior class where we have about 67% registered.
5. Graduate enrollment as of December 14 is up 298 students.
6. Fall applications are up 17%; admissions up 46% and transfers were down 4%.
7. New housing contracts are up 41%; Border States are up 50% from last year. We are closing in on last year's 10<sup>th</sup> day enrollment.
8. When asked about SIUC's budget for FY10, Dr. Goldman stated that the system gets about \$133 million and SIUC gets \$100 million.
9. Extensive marketing continues in Border States in areas such as Evansville and surrounding Paducah area.
10. At Dr. Goldman's request, Dr. Wilson to give an update on centers in China and Taiwan. Dr. Wilson stated we have 10 applications from ZZU and are looking for a number of exchange students from UIBE this spring. Discussions are ongoing with a school in southern Taiwan associated with an international baccalaureate high school as well as 4 other international baccalaureate high schools in Taiwan. There is also a possibility of bringing high school students here in the spring. A group from COLA has been collaborating with ZZU on an application for a Confucius Institute to be located at SIUC. VCR Koropchak commented that a delegation visiting India is also exploring possibilities of a center.
11. The accreditation report is done and the first proof will be available shortly. It will be delivered during the third week in January and the team will be here from March 20 through 24. Report will be posted on the web. He was considering a proposal from Jim Allen to have a major unveiling for the university community.
12. He asked for help with his dilemma of continuing the Excellence Awards Program in light of budgetary issues. The concern is one of money as the costs for the excellence awards are over \$150,000. Recipients can receive cash awards of up to \$15,000. He asked for advice on how to continue these awards that recognize excellence without the costs. There was a general consensus that recognizing excellence with some sort of monetary award is necessary, however the extra frills like watches, dinners, and etc. were not necessary. The monetary awards help cover the costs to attend conferences during the year that will not be covered by the respective colleges or departments. Goldman stated he is more in the direction of going ahead with recognition and figuring out a way to do it with honor and dignity at less cost rather than cancelling the whole thing.
13. Dr. Goldman thanked the Council for the important work they do for the university, adding we are very grateful for what you have done.
14. Concluded by stating that he and the new Chancellor have met and are in close contact. Dr. Cheng has enormous experience, understanding and a lot of savvy. It will be a good transition.

3. **Remarks – Interim Provost Rice**

Interim Provost Rice was not in attendance.

4. **Announcements**

Vice Chancellor for Research John Koropchak

VCR Koropchak commented there are 4 legs to our budget as a public research University and those are state dollars, tuition income, gifts, and grants/contracts. He reported that at the end of November, we are 47% above the same level of grants and contracts as last year. That corresponds to about \$42,000,000, which is about \$15,000,000 more than last year at this time. He remarked that it is typically March or April before we reach that number. We hope to continue that strong success with your efforts and those efforts of your colleagues across the campus.

He announced that during his trip to China, he was presented with a 2-volume hard copy document published by the Chinese government that listed what they perceive as the top 100 world renowned universities. Included in the top 100 universities is Southern Illinois University. He commented that this will be effective for our recruiting efforts in China since ranking is important to parents of students in China. He noted that Stanford, MIT, Oxford and Cambridge also were mentioned in the subsection that includes SIUC.

*Good News.*

In the last 6-7 years the research-support facilities of the campus have been active and very successful in seeking external awards to enhance the capabilities of our campus. That success continues. We recently got word that our Electron Microscopy Image Center was awarded another grant for an additional high resolution electron microscope.

We also have recently awarded the Outstanding Master's Thesis Award to Mary M. Coonce from the Department of Physiology who was advised by Dr. Prema Narayan. In the past, our nominees were also nominated for the Midwest Association of Graduate Schools Thesis Award, in which we have had a high degree of success as well.

Thanked everyone who was actively involved in the Chancellor Search adding that we made a great and positive impression on all the candidates thanks to all your efforts.

Associate Dean Wilson

Associate Dean Wilson announced that, thanks to the Chancellor, we have a signed contract for Apply Yourself that will begin installation and implementation on January 1. This application process will be available for use for spring 2011 enrollment.

He announced we have gotten about 1000 applications for spring; admitted 360 masters students and about 60 or so doctoral students. He asked departments to check for incomplete applications and to contact the applicant and ask them for what is needed to complete the application.

He announced that a graduation ceremony will be held this Saturday afternoon; graduating 269 master's students and 50 doctoral students.

5. **Announcements – Professor Hellgren**

Chairman Hellgren recognized Dr. Fletcher for serving on the Chancellor's Search Committee and Tom Britton for serving as co-chair.

6. **Faculty Senate – Professor Howze**

Dr. Howze was not in attendance. Chairman Hellgren commented there were two Faculty Senate resolutions (FS1007 and FS1009) that were attached to the agenda and were read by the Vice Chair of the Faculty Senate to the Graduate Council at the November meeting. These resolutions have since been approved by the Senate.

Faculty Senate Resolution 1007 was put forth by the Faculty Senate to approve and support the formation of a Chancellor's Budget Policy Committee. This resolution was discussed in the Executive Committee and a letter was written to Phil Howze, the Faculty Senate President, stating that, by consensus, our Executive Committee decided not to bring this resolution to the body of the Graduate Council. The letter further stated that "we believe that incoming Chancellor Cheng should play a key role in restructuring that committee as she sees fit." "...It is the general consensus by the Executive Committee that the Chancellor should work on any restructuring of her advisory committee." Chairman Hellgren stated that if anyone wanted to bring this up as a topic for consideration by the body of the Graduate Council, it is their prerogative to do so. Hearing none, he continued with the next resolution from the Faculty Senate.

Faculty Senate Resolution FS1009 expressed concern and displeasure in the administration's refusal to incorporate the Faculty Senate's recommendations into the proposed sexual harassment procedures. This resolution is more for information since the Faculty Senate did not request the Graduate Council to comment.

A request was made from the Sexual Harassment Working Group to all the constituency groups asking for their input. This issue was also discussed in the Executive Committee and a letter was sent to Michelle Miller of the Sexual Harassment Working Group. The letter was read by Chairman Hellgren which stated: "Many groups are disappointed with the lack of consideration given to incorporating constituency concerns into the present form of the draft. The consensus of our committee was to encourage other groups, the Sexual Harassment

Working Group and the Faculty Senate, to press for change in this important document. However, we will not bring this up again with the body of the graduate council. . . . .Also we believe that if this were to be carried further by a faculty body, it should be the faculty senate. Overall the topic is somewhat out of the purview of our directive of graduation education and policy.” Ms. Miller responded that she was happy with our response and would move forward.

#### Discussion or additional Comments

Chancellor Goldman also commented that several constituency groups have given proposals and they are not all the same. He stated this issue is very complex. The policy has already been established and procedures are a negotiable item. We are in negotiations with the Faculty Association with respect to those procedures. There are also legal concerns brought up by our Legal Counsel stating that there are certain things we must do and certain things we cannot do, based on the law. In some instances the law does not mesh with a constituency groups’ suggestions. We are having a difficult time persuading them, that it is the law. We should try to accommodate in every which way the wishes of our people but there are some constraints. One is the negotiation and the other is the law. You will hear from various groups that we are disregarding, but we are trying very hard to work around issues. Where it is the law, we have to abide by that. This is not to put blame or be critical, but this is simply the issue.

Chairman Hellgren stated that we are moving on from this topic and will let other groups continue with this issue.

7. **Nominations to Committees – Professor Mundschenk**

There were no nominees at this time.

8. **GPSC Report**

There was no report at this time. They are meeting and discussing various issues.

9. **Report of New Programs Committee – Professor Scott Ishman**

Professor Scott Ishman introduced representatives from Geology (Steve Esling); Geography and Environmental Resources (Ben Dziegielewski; College of Science (Jay Means); and Environmental Resources and Policy (Sylvia Secchi).

### **READING OF RESOLUTION**

**RATIONALE:** The Department of Geology and College of Science (COS), Southern Illinois University Carbondale (SIUC) has proposed the addition of a Ph.D. in Geosciences. The Ph.D. degree in Geosciences is an interdisciplinary program lead by faculty in the Department of Geology but also including COS

faculty in Chemistry, Microbiology, Physics and Plant Biology, as well as cooperating faculty in Geography and Environmental Resources, and Civil and Environmental Engineering. The proposed program is designed to train students already holding a Masters Degree or equivalent coursework in the physical or biological sciences who choose to work in industry, addressing associated environmental problems or seeking and developing energy and geologic natural resources, as well as those in academics who will teach and conduct research at institutions of higher learning.

The rapidly growing needs for energy and mineral resources, providing environmental protection and responsible land and water management associated with these activities have led to explosive and sustained growth in Geosciences careers in both industry and academia. The application pool will be fed by a strong demand for training and research in multidisciplinary Geosciences. At present, the Department of Geology has eleven faculty who are active researchers with very productive research programs. The addition of a Ph.D. Program in Geosciences will further increase the research productivity of the faculty by enhancing their ability to recruit high quality graduate students that is currently limited due to the Environmental Resources and Policy umbrella, which does not meet the needs of many of the students and faculty in the Department of Geology. The proposed Ph.D. in Geosciences will benefit the Department, as well as the University with increased student recruitment potential, research opportunities and stronger faculty recruitment.

The program of study will be flexible, to allow students to take courses offered by departments within the College of Science, and across campus. Each student is expected to take graduate level courses (excluding readings, independent studies, and internship) of at least 3 credits, each from at least four different faculty members at SIUC. The post master's credit requirement is 48 semester hours, 24 of which may be 600-level dissertation credits. While faculty from different departments in the College of Science are expected to add courses appropriate for the doctoral program in geosciences, the addition of a Ph.D. program will not require specific changes in course listings. The College and Department of Geology already have a wide range of advanced graduate courses listed in the catalog. The addition of a Ph.D. program will make it possible to offer many of those as well as new courses on a more regular basis. The proposed program is expected to achieve a level of 4-5 graduates per year in the Department of Geology and will be supported by resources of the Department of Geology. Additional funds for the program will come from internal reallocation. The addition of the Ph.D. program in Geosciences requests no new state resources.

**RESOLUTION:** Be it resolved that the Graduate Council approves the creation of a Ph.D. Program in Geosciences.

Discussion/Comments

Discussion ensued regarding this resolution including concerns expressed by Dr. Sylvia Secchi, a co-director of the Environmental Resources and Policy Program (ER&P) and Dr. Ben Dziegielewski, Acting Chair of the Department of Geography and Environmental Resources. Dr. Secchi suggested that this program may possibly reduce funding or result in a loss of state funds to the ER&P program. Professor Ishman stated he sees this as something that students want and will bring in more graduate students. Dr. Dziegielewski stated he was concerned about the ER&P program if the Geosciences proposal is approved, believing it would have a negative impact on the program. He found no reason to support the proposal in Geosciences because of complications for their ability to graduate students in the ER&P program.

Professor Ishman stated that these concerns were addressed in a meeting with the faculty of Geography and Environmental Resources. At that meeting he explained that this will have no effect on the resources of Geography or the ER&P. The core in ER&P will continue to be taught and the Geology laboratory which is in Parkinson will be left alone. He realizes that there is an issue regarding the name of the degree as "Geosciences" because the Departments of Geography, Geology and ER&P all consider themselves as Geosciences. However, there will be a link on the website to these departments and if deemed appropriate, students will be channeled into these departments as needed. In addition, all faculty in the departments were invited to advise students within this program and some have expressed interest.

John Koropchak explained this is a complicated issue and these are complicated times within the university and state. The addition of a Geosciences Ph.D. program has the potential to positively impact the university, particularly when energy is such a hot topic at the national and international level. He also added that the Board of Higher Education is not particularly supportive of graduate education. At this point most of the new programs the IBHE is approving are at private institutions. The approval of any new program is an extensive process off campus. In terms of resources, this resolution indicates that the College of Science proposes to internally reallocate to further support this program. The issue that came to his mind when this came up was that COS has two new Ph.D. programs that are going through their first review. The internal reallocation could jeopardize the status of those existing or recently created programs. The Dean has assured him that will not be the case.

College of Science Dean Jay Means stated that reallocation of funds will not jeopardize the Computer Science, Applied Physics or other programs recently created. The lines associated with those degrees are in place and are not part of this reallocation plan.

VCR Koropchak says that the ER&P program reports to him and he sees this as collaboration across campus. He trusts the judgment of those that are in the department to continue to work together.

Dr. Wilson also noted that this is not taking the program apart, but strengthening the program by adding a degree.

VCR Koropchak stated that he was hesitant to bring this up, but an interdisciplinary Ph.D. program is in the graduate catalog which was intended to provide a mechanism by which students interested in an interdisciplinary program could establish a committee across interdisciplinary lines for coursework. We are working with other groups that are interested in interdisciplinary Ph.D. programs. It is believed that they may be able to use this framework as a way of having a sub topical area where we could give students interested in ecology a way to formulate a program of study that involves participating departments but not a separate Ph.D. program. A student could possibly get a Ph.D. in civil engineering with emphasis in ecology. This option is going to come before the Council in the near future. It fits within the framework of how we can create interdisciplinary programs with existing resources.

Chairman Hellgren stated that he understands there are concerns regarding this proposal and in the interest of time, he will develop a quick summary regarding pros and cons of this resolution. Dr. Wilson will post the full proposal on the website for access by those wanting to review the resolution. Chairman Hellgren will provide a summary of pros and cons in a concise way before the next meeting in February. He also added that, rather than table this resolution, he would like to move forward on this. Discussion was stopped at this time.

10. **Report of Research Committee – Professor Manoj Mohanty**

**READING OF RESOLUTION**

**Whereas**, Southern Illinois University Carbondale (SIUC) is classified as a Research Extensive (High Research Activity) University;

**Whereas**, externally funded research commonly generates indirect costs (IDC) and the current guidelines for distributing IDC at SIUC have been in place for several years;

**Whereas**, 39 of these funds are allocated to the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research, 31% are allocated to the Office of the Chancellor and the remaining 30% are distributed to the respective Colleges;

**Whereas**, in many of the peer and aspirational peer institutions surveyed, the PI does receive a portion of the IDC return as a research incentive;

**Therefore, be it resolved** for the SIUC Colleges which do not currently provide a specific portion of the IDC return to the PI(s) that the PI(s), the Department Chair



or Center Director and the College Dean negotiate further distribution of the 30% of the IDC return to the college level on a proposal-by-proposal basis;

**Therefore, be it further resolved** that the above three-party negotiations be formalized in writing by the respective parties: PI(s), Chair/Director and the Dean prior to the submission of each external grant proposal.

#### Discussion

College of Science Dean Jay Means stated that this was brought before the Deans Council and it was the general consensus that this was an untimely resolution to go forward given the budget situation at SIUC. Speaking for his College, he said that the College keeps 10% of the 30% given to the college and the remaining 20% goes to the department. These funds are used for new hires, replacing equipment. He noted that he typically gets 24 hours to sign off on a proposal that goes in and there is really no time for negotiation for indirect cost returns. It was noted that since his college has a formula for distributing IDC down to respective departments, this would not directly affect him.

Chairman Hellgren stated that this resolution is very negotiable and provides flexibility across the board. If there is no money, the chair or dean has the flexibility to say no.

13. **Report of Program Review Committee – Professor Mark Kittleson**

Professor Kittleson announced that the Committee has had their first internal/external report completed in Chemistry.

14. **Report of Ed Policies Committee – Professor McClurg**

### **READING OF RESOLUTION**

**Whereas**, Southern Illinois University is committed to the dissemination of scholarly research to as broad an audience as possible;

**Whereas**, a fundamental component of graduate education is student research;

**Whereas**, there is already a mechanism for dissemination of graduate dissertations and theses, but not research papers;

**Whereas**, the library has a reliable and simple method for sharing and preserving research conducted at Southern Illinois University;

**It is resolved**, that all research papers submitted to the Graduate School to partially fulfill requirements for graduate degrees from Southern Illinois University be made

available through the institutional electronic repository available in OpenSIUC effective starting Fall 2010.

Discussion: There was some discussion regarding this resolution. Dr. Wilson stated that the Graduate School will work out the mechanism and will hold seminars.

15. **Old Business**

There was no old business.

16. **New Business**

Dr. Manoj Mohanty asked if there is a policy on visiting scholars commenting that they have a visiting scholar that came here to do research with a faculty member in engineering. This particular visiting scholar is being paid from his own country through some agency and has been here 10 months and has produced almost nothing. Chairman Hellgren stated this topic will be discussed in the next Executive Council meeting.

An announcement was made of the recent death of Dr. Regina Foley, a graduate faculty member.

There being no further business to bring before the council, meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted

Donna L. Reynolds  
Recording Secretary