

MEETING OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL

Southern Illinois University Carbondale

February 4, 2010

Members and Administrative Officers Present:

Sara Baer; Gargi Bhattacharya (GPSC); Thomas Britton; David Carlson; Judith Davie; John Dobbins; Daniel Dyer; Anne Fletcher; Samuel Goldman; John Groninger; Eric Hellgren; Phillip Howze; Jodi Huggenvik; Holly Hurlburt; Scott Ishman (Ken Anderson); Kimberly Kempf-Leonard (Matt Giblin); Mark Kittleson; John A. Koropchak; Leslie Lloyd; Scott McClurg; Jay Means (Deans Council); Christian Moe; Nancy Mundschenk; Ryan Netzley; Mark Peterson; Elyse Pineau; Pat Manfredi; Alicia Swan; Keith Waugh, David Wilson; Tomasz Wiltkowski; Bryan Young.

Members and Administrative Officers Absent

Judith Davie; Eileen Meehan; Shauna MacDonald; Manoj Mohanty; Don Rice; Prudence Rice and William Stevens;

Chairman Hellgren called the meeting of the Graduate Council to order on February 4, 2010 at 8:00 a.m. in the Missouri/Kaskaskia Room of the Student Center.

Announcement of Proxies – David Wilson announced that Professor Matthew Giblin is here as proxy for Kimberly Kempf-Leonard and Ken Anderson is here for Scott Ishman.

1. **Consideration of minutes of the December 17, 2009 Graduate Council meeting.**

A correction to the minutes of December 17, 2009 was made by Sara Baer who indicated she was not present and the minutes show her as present. The minutes will be changed to reflect Sara Baer as being absent. A motion was made, seconded and passed for approval of the minutes of the previous meeting with correction noted.

2. **Remarks – Chancellor Goldman**

Chancellor Goldman made the following remarks:

We are headed in the right direction; there are areas of new growth and things have been put into place for the fall. The Chancellor indicated there are three areas of growth: one is graduate enrollment, another is off-campus enrollment, and the third area is international students.

Undergraduate enrollment is about 98.8% of last spring. Traditionally, there is a drop-off in spring. Numbers are down 1.2% from last year.

There are a couple colleges that are struggling with enrollment and we need to assist them to grow their enrollment. The College of Mass Communications is down 11% and the College of Business and Administration is down 9%. COBA's on-line undergraduate programming cannot go on line until next spring because of a hold-up in approval from North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

We are targeting recruitment campaigns in Evansville, St. Louis, Paducah, Memphis and Nashville. The returns from our border states have gone very well. The largest is Missouri, Indiana and Tennessee.

Our enrollment is at the 99th percent level for freshman, sophomore and junior class. We have a drop at the senior-class level which may be because some of our students finish early so they do not reregister from one classification to the next; another reason is financial. We are searching for an explanation for this drop in enrollment.

Regarding international enrollment, the China-Taiwan initiative is doing well. He attended a meeting this morning to discuss how to welcome a large influx of students from China and Taiwan. The Confucius Institute will be an important move for us. We will have an impressive amount of students from China on campus this year. There is also an initiative in India, particularly in Engineering.

Chancellor Goldman asked Dr. Wilson to comment on the UIBE invitation to SIUC students to visit their program. Dr. Wilson stated this would be a tremendous opportunity for our students. UIBE has an international program, a nice library, and English speaking staff. They go out of their way to welcome students. It is very affordable. They will be working with our program in International Programs and Services for our students to attend. UIBE will cover some of the costs as well.

There is a need to begin to address new program offerings. We have several pre-major programs but they cannot move forward because we do not have programming in place, especially in the health programs. The Nursing program will have a major impact on the pre-nursing program. The Wellness Center is cooperating with the Edwardsville campus on this. We are in discussions with Northern Illinois University to partner with them for a 4-year program in Physical Therapy, like the partnership we have in Edwardsville.

Resources for higher education in the State of Illinois are dwindling. Even if we get a tax increase, we will be at the bottom of the pack to receive money from that. Higher education in the state of Illinois is in for massive changes. He cited the University of Illinois as an example. They are buying out staff. They have put the heat on to either revitalize or eliminate some programs. They will be eliminating a huge number of positions shortly. They are moving in the direction that we all will be going at some point in the future. We are okay right now. We are struggling to get the cash flow problem solved. President Poshard is working very hard to get

legislation to allow us to borrow money. Although we have been assured that we will get all the money that is owed us, we do not know when we will get it. We will be able to borrow against that promised money much like the public schools do.

The Self-Study for the Accreditation is completed and can be accessed through the SIUC home page. He urged everyone to read the document. The Accreditation Team will be here from March 22 to March 24. We have not been given a specific schedule so everyone is on stand-by. He credited Jim Allen for his vision in the way the Accreditation document was put together. The guiding thread for this document was "Southern at 150." There were many sections written by many in different styles. Chancellor Goldman credited Pru Rice for pulling it all together and rewriting some sections of the document. He also credited Susan Ferry for checking the many citations on the document.

Dr. Means remarked that there are many good things that do not make it into the *DE* such as increased enrollment in the College of Agricultural and College of Science enrollment.

3. **Remarks – Interim Provost Rice**

Interim Provost Rice was not in attendance.

4. **Announcements**

Vice Chancellor for Research John Koropchak

Graduate enrollment has increased slightly by 25 students for the spring. There was a small decline in master's students and an increase in doctoral students. The increase was attributed to continuing and re-entry classifications. New first time students are down significantly. This is surprising because we had a higher level for admissions but our yield rate was lower than what we traditionally experience. One other aspect is the continuing increase in ratio of Ph.D. to Masters Students. Our Southern at150 goal was to increase the proportion of Ph.D. students to at least 25%. Last year the proportion rose to 28% and this spring to 29%. This change may reflect a rise in the reputations of our programs.

The strategy of marketing our programs in student newspapers in bordering states is continuing. This marketing strategy began last fall working with Terry Clark, whose data indicated that 80% of college students get their primary source of news from their college newspaper. A series of advertisements will be put in the college newspapers in bordering states.

Total graduate enrollment for Spring Semester is 3977.

After 7 months in the fiscal year our data indicate our total awards were \$52,000,000, up 27% compared to the same time in the last fiscal year. There was a 44% increase in research awards.

The next Research Town Meeting will be at the Student Center on Thursday April 8 [since changed to April 19] and we hope you will attend and encourage all your colleagues to attend and participate.

Good News

Rod Brunson, a young faculty member in the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, was selected for an award from the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, an award for young scholars.

A recent poem by Rodney Jones was selected to be included in the 2010 edition of the best of American poetry. There are only 75 poems selected annually. One of our recent graduates, Adrian Matakō, also has a poem selected for this publication.

Associate Dean Wilson

Fellowship season is here and we have 68 applications for doctoral awards and another group for the Morris Fellowship.

We have been very concerned about the stipend level for fellowships for some time. After discussions with Vice Chancellor Koropchak, we have adjusted the fellowship awards to the same level of the graduate school assistantship, which is an increase of about \$300 a month. We have asked for assistance so that we may be able to provide the same number of fellowships next year. We do not know if that will be forthcoming in this budget climate. If not, we will be giving fewer awards but it will be a much more competitive package.

We are in the process of beginning the implementation for Apply Yourself. On Friday, we will be having a call to discuss various technical questions that need to be worked out. We are getting assistance from Victoria Valle's staff. We will be needing assistance from IT at some point.

The Excellence through Commitment Graduate Scholarships will be continued through next year. The intent of these awards is to look at programs that have additional capacity, particularly at the master's level, but do not have a lot of support for students. This is a way to offer incentives for students to come by providing roughly a 1/3 discount on tuition. We want the offer of the award to be made in the same way as sending a letter offering an assistantship and recommending them for admission to the university. Early next week you will be receiving information about these scholarships and it will be up to the departments whether they want to participate. We are restricting departments to about 10 per

program. He also stated he will assume the departments who requested last year would want to continue the program.

Associate Dean Mead

Dr. Mead stated that the increase in federal dollars was due to funding generated mostly from the stimulus program. Some areas are showing substantial cuts from the past years. He recommended everyone follow what is going on within professional organizations within their areas because the National Science Foundation and NIH may continue to increase.

In response to a question regarding FutureGen, he stated that it was his understanding from the state delegation that has been in Washington recently that the Department of Energy would like to schedule a decision in the next couple of months. The President just announced funding for clean coal technology, which is positive for the area.

5. **Announcements – Professor Hellgren**

Proposal of Traffic and Parking Committee

Chairman Hellgren handed out a proposal from the Traffic and Parking Committee regarding changes in parking fees. Rather than have a lengthy discussion, he requested comments be submitted to him so that he can represent the Council at the next Traffic and Parking Committee. He asked the council members to keep in mind that the parking fees at the University of Illinois are over \$500 per year.

6. **Faculty Senate – Professor Howze**

Dr. Howze stated that the Faculty Senate has also received the Traffic and Parking Committee fee proposal.

A meeting between the faculty and President Poshard has been tentatively scheduled for April 12 at 1 p.m. They are working to set up a meeting with President Poshard to provide a state of the budget for the entire faculty. The location is to be determined depending on attendance. It is his understanding that Dr. Cheng will be in attendance as well. April 12 is strategic in the sense that if March goes well or does not, April 12 would be a good time for President Poshard to talk to us to find out how April and May will be going before most of us finish up for the summer.

Lastly with regard to an Open Access resolution, the Faculty Senate is still waiting on text from the Graduate Council regarding Open Access. We only have two more meetings of the Senate after the February meeting. Chancellor-Elect Cheng has this on her web page as a high-priority issue and has formed a university-wide task force to examine Open Access. The University of Wisconsin Milwaukee is moving

full steam ahead and we cannot get a resolution out of our bodies yet. At this time, Chairman Hellgren asked Scott McClurg to give an update on where his committee is on this subject. Scott McClurg stated his committee is at a standstill; however, he anticipates the committee will present two different resolutions at the next meeting and have the Council decide among them.

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

There were no nominees at this time.

8. **GPSC Report**

There was no report at this time.

9. **Report of New Programs Committee – Professor Hurlburt (interim chair)**

VOTE ON RESOLUTION FOR PH.D. IN GEOSCIENCES

Chairman Hellgren noted we have a resolution that was read at the last meeting regarding a proposed Ph.D. program in Geosciences. All the principals from the last council meeting were invited to attend this meeting – Dr. Esling, Chair of the Geology Department; Dr. Dziegieleski, interim acting chair of Geography and Environmental Resources; and Chris Lant is here to represent the Environmental Resources and Policy Program. He noted they are here to answer questions rather than present more of their positions on this program. The position statements were posted on the web and he hoped that everyone had a chance to review these to have a better understanding of the pros and cons of that program. Chairman Hellgren noted that he contacted Ratna Sinha in the Graduate School to give an update regarding enrollment relative to the scope of Geology's role in ER&P at this time. She advised that there are currently 24 graduate students enrolled in the ER&P program now and 4 of those are in Geology. Chairman Hellgren asked Professor Hurlburt to read the resolution.

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

Discussion

Dr. Mark Kittleson asked Dr. Steve Esling, Chair of the Geology department, how many faculty from Geology were allowed to vote for this proposal and how many were for it. Dr. Esling responded that the all the faculty were allowed to vote and there are 11 faculty, including himself, and the vote was unanimous.

Dr. Hurlburt, the Interim Chair of this Committee, noted that after the last meeting of the Graduate Council, she was contacted by some members who expressed concern about what they felt was serious tension that came out of the discussions at

the last meeting and regardless of how this goes forward there may be some sort of disagreement or discomfort moving forward.

Dr. Esling commented that the Faculty in Geology feels disenfranchised and some doctoral students are very upset. He stated he does not know what they would do if this did not pass.

Dr. Baer asked if there is tension the other way and Dr. Chris Lant responded that there would be more tension if the resolution does not pass and that passing the resolution will resolve some tension. He also noted that Geology has had a piece of the pie of ER&P for some time and if that piece of the pie is redirected toward the Geosciences Program, then the ER&P program will respond in some constructive manner. We have some good ideas, such as a concentration in Climatology. Earlier there was some discussion with the Law School regarding a joint JD/PHD in environmental law. From his perspective, the Geosciences Program does have impacts on the ER&P. The Graduate Council created this program ten years ago and as long as this council is open to new initiatives from ER&P to regain a slice of the pie that Geosciences would be redirecting, then there would not be strong objections to this program going forward. He noted there are very good faculty in both Geology and Geography and the programs have improved substantially in the last few years since ER&P was created. The faculty in Geology are going to achieve their objectives either through the Geosciences proposal or through a later model through ER&P if for some reason Springfield does not approve. In terms of tension, that has been resolved.

Dr. Esling also stated that the Geology department would continue to work with faculty in ER&P if the resolution was not approved; however, they would like the proposal to go forward to be made at the state level.

Chairman Hellgren asked Dean Means to further explain his reasoning that no other developing programs would be jeopardized if this goes forward. Dean Means responded that the numbers, in terms of enrollment within the ER&P program and the participation of students within the ER&P program that are from the Geology faculty speak to that issue to a certain extent. The faculty that have graduate students in the ER&P program represent not only a minority of the Geology faculty but also a consistent minority of the students enrolled in the program. His understanding from the faculty that are affiliated with the ER&P program is that they will continue to be engaged in that because it is beneficial to their overall research program. There will continue to be Geology faculty that have students who go through the ER&P program because of the mix of advising faculty that are available through that interdisciplinary program.

Dean Means stated that the issue for him is that the Geology Department is the only department in the College of Science that does not have access to doctoral students in their own discipline. Fully 2/3 of the faculty in the Geology Department cannot effectively recruit students and get them through the ER&P program because of the

specializations that they are in. It is very difficult for a geophysicist to put a student through a program that is oriented toward policy and energy or other resources when what they are really interested in is plate tectonics. It is very difficult for a faculty member who is a world-renowned expert in micropaleontology, which is the study of skeletons of ancient algae that are deposited in sediments, to get a degree candidate through the program.

We have dedicated resources internally within the College of Science to assist the Geology program in moving forward with support for this doctoral program but also for additional faculty positions in the Geology department. We believe in the importance of this field to the growth of the college and to the growth of that particular faculty which is, at this point, stunted because of the unavailability of doctoral students. We are not taking any resources away from the ER&P program. There will be no money taken away, no faculty participation will be taken away and so it is a win-win situation. In my experience at other institutions before I came here, the addition of a solid within-discipline program interfacing with other interdisciplinary programs tends to strengthen both rather than take something away from one and leaving the other stronger.

Dr. Ken Andersen commented that he is a faculty member in the Department of Geology that is not served by the ER&P program; he has been at the university for 6-1/2 years and has attained over \$3 million in grants but is still not able to recruit Ph.D. students into his research program.

VOTE ON RESOLUTION

Hearing no other discussion, a voice vote was taken and the motion passed with one opposed.

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

Chairman Hellgren asked Sara Baer to read the resolution to the Council.

RESOLUTION: 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

Dr. Mark Kittleson asked what this would be changing since it was his understanding that there was already a policy in place. Dr. Baer stated that this brings awareness to the P.I. that there is a mechanism for the P.I. to receive compensation and also formalizes the process. When asked about why there was not a minimum amount put into the resolution, she responded that the committee did not want to set an amount. The other complicating factor is that not all indirect cost return is the same which would complicate the issue such as some agencies will fund large amounts for projects but will not allow indirect costs and others allow up to 45.5% indirect cost rates. Each college will come up with a protocol to follow when negotiating indirect costs. Dr. Baer also stated that the resolution provided the most flexibility and, the bigger picture may provide incentives to apply for grants with larger overhead so that colleges benefit more and the university benefits with more money overall. Dr. Koropchak stated that with state resources diminishing, the more we can generate on our own enhances our programs and encourages growth in that regard. Our peer and aspirational institutions already have a policy in place. In response to taking up the P.I.'s time with negotiations, it was stated that negotiation may take place before the application begins. Also it could be discussed in advance in a department meeting. As to the argument that this adds more paperwork to the proposal process, it was noted that the proposal coversheet has room for multiple accounts to note as receiving overhead. This proposal just formalizes the option and provides the PI's with information regarding the possibility of receiving a portion of the overhead. There was much discussion about whether this resolution goes far enough or will be effective; however the committee felt that this is the first step in this process and provides the most flexibility to the departments.

There being no further discussion, the question was called by Dr. Hellgren.

VOTE ON RESOLUTION

A voice vote and a vote by show of hands were taken; the resolution passed with 18 in favor and 5 opposing.

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

Professor Kittleson stated there were no resolutions to report. He acknowledged the great group he has been working with this year.

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

RESOLUTION: 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.

VOTE ON RESOLUTION

After a short discussion, a voice vote was taken and the resolution passed unanimously.

15. **Old Business**

There was no old business.

16. **New Business**

There was no new business

There being no further business to bring before the council, meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted

Donna L. Reynolds
Recording Secretary