

**Natural Sciences and Mathematics Council**  
**Draft Minutes for April 5th, 2011**  
**Call to order at 3:30**  
**Present:**

Rupali Chandar, Fan Dong, Randy Ellingson, Hans Gottgens, Sally Harmych, David Krantz, Charlie Odenthal, John Plenefisch, Anthony Quinn, Tim Mueser substituting for Don Ronning, Joe Schmidt, Friedhelm Schwarz, John-David Smith, Steve Sucheck, Sibylle Weck-Schwarz, Denis White, Don White

**Absent:**

Jon Bossenbroek, Max Funk

**Approval of minutes, with modification, from the March 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting with one abstention.**

**Old Business**

Discussion continued concerning changes to the constitution.

The discussion about the proposed constitutional changes focused on Article I sections 1 and 2 and Article II. The College mission statement was incorporated into Article I Section 1, and after extensive discussion, the wording of faculty principles in Article 1 Section 2 was modified for clarity and brevity.

The vote to confirm these changes was unanimous. The constitution will be forwarded to Terry Romer for distribution to CNSM faculty for a vote, see New Business

**New Business**

Sibylle Weck-Schwarz, Chair of the Elections Committee, gave a report on elections.

Summary

*Elections to Graduate Council.* Nomination elections for Graduate Council have commenced Tuesday late afternoon (during the Council meeting). Ballots will close Tuesday April 12, 5pm.

*Elections to CCAP:* The elections committee had already collected/verified most of the information needed to determine eligibility for voting and election on the CCAP elections. The last few items were cleared during the Council meeting, so the election for nomination of 2 at-large members of CCAP should commence within the next few of days (depending on Terry Romer's project load).

*Constitution:* To start the vote on the college constitution, an electronic version of the constitution is needed, as soon as the constitution is approved by Council. (John Plenefisch pointed out that the changes with respect to the current constitution must be made clear in the version put before faculty, and that he would provide this.)

Steve Suheck, Chair of the Curriculum Committee, presented curriculum business

#### Summary

Physics: Modifications to the existing program “Masters of Science in Physics, Professional Degree in Photovoltaics”, Existing Courses PHYS3400, PHYS4580, PHYS4780, PHYS6180, PHYS7180, and New Course PHYS6280/7280 were approved with minor modification.

Environmental Sciences: Modifications to Existing Courses EEES2100, and EEES2500 were approved.

Gave remarks regarding discussions that encompassed possible changes to college course requirements. Previously, an idea to change language requirements along a line that divides the B.A. and B.S. degrees was raised in council. The idea of dropping the former A&S College requirements for foreign languages and/or other courses not part of the university core for the B.S. program, while keeping most or all of those requirements for the B.A. was discussed. While agreeable to some departments, others were not in favor of the idea. Further, the unsettled nature of the university core complicated discussion of breadth requirements in the CNSM. A motion to table the discussion on changes to CNSM skill and distributive requirements until Faculty Senate discussions surrounding university core requirements have been resolved passed 4-0 with one abstention. The subcommittee confirmed the need to continue generating new proposals satisfactory to the departments within the CNSM, in order to move quickly after possible changes to university core requirements have been resolved.

The next meeting of the NS&M Council was set for April 19<sup>th</sup>.

Motion to extend the meeting by 10 minutes failed.

**Adjournment** at 5:00 p.m.