

Natural Sciences and Mathematics Council

Meeting Minutes for September 4, 2012

Wolfe Hall 1240

Jon Bossenbroek reporting

Call to Order at 3:30 by Chair David Krantz

Introductions of Council members by Department

Minutes from April 17, 2012 meeting approved unanimously

Welcome – Chair David Krantz

Primary roles of the NSM council:

Legislative body for the College

Approve curriculum

Critical in the flow of information between faculty and administration

Advise the Dean on matters of proposed policy

Elections of Officers

Vice Chair (Chair Elect for 2013-14)

J.D. Smith nominated by Joseph Schmidt; voted in unanimously

Secretary

Jon Bossenbroek voted in unanimously

Interim appointment to Faculty Senate of Andy Jorgensen to replace Denis White

Move to approve Andy Jorgensen (Chemistry) for 1-year appt. to replace Denis White (Math & Stat) during sabbatical. Approved by unanimous vote.

Assignments to Permanent NSM Committees

Executive

Krantz (ES), Bamber (Biol), Schmidt (Chem), Smith (P&A), Schwarz (Math), Kippenhan (Instr)

Curriculum

Quinn (Biol), Gottgens (ES), Thompson (Math)

Volunteered as new members: Cushing (P&A), Bellizzi (Chem)

Quinn has expressed willingness to continue serving as Chair, subject to vote by Cmt.

Elections – responsible for College elections

Weck-Schwarz (Math), Schmidt (Chem), Dong (Biol), White (Math), Ashburner (ex officio)

Weck-Schwarz has expressed willingness to continue serving as Chair, subject to vote by Cmt.

Update on Faculty Senate Activities – Faculty Senate Members: Krantz, White, Weck-Schwarz

Address by Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Bill Koester

Recognizes the need for improved communication between BOT, Administration, and Faculty

Executive Cmt Report from Mike Dowd – President of Faculty Senate

At BOT Academic Affairs Cmt, Dowd had prepared comments based on feedback from the faculty concerning the process of selecting Scott Scarborough as Provost.

He was told that he could only give his personal opinion and could not represent the Faculty.

Higher Learning Commission

UT has received the report from the review by the accreditation review by the HLC
UT was accredited, but the HLC made recommendations for action and improvement
HLC have changed the way they do accreditation – continuous synthesis of information annually
by the University with site visits in years 4 and 10 (rather than all events in year 10)
One of their recommendations was national searches for provost and other administrators

New University Council

The new University Council was created by BOT in spring and will begin meeting this fall.
~50% admin, rest from faculty, students, staff, and alumni.

Authority: approval authority over curricula, policies that affect university, sole means of
official communication to the BOT.

New Provost – Scott Scarborough

Has been approved by the BOT

Good CFO with a background in management; not as strong a background in academics.

New definition of credit hours by UT Board of Trustees

This was proposed by BOT committee in spring, and approved by full BOT in June

Most of the University Faculty and students are not aware of this change

Need to see the specific language of the resolution

Might allow a student to receive credit for almost anything.

Student might be able to petition to receive credit at beginning of semester via an exam.

Report on meeting with Dean and Associate Dean about priorities for Fall Semester – David Krantz

Committee Needs

Curriculum

B.S. and B.A. in General Science

Ad-Hoc – Constitution & Bylaws - Schmidt

Constitution not in line with CBA

Ad-Hoc – Big Ideas in Science – 2 Semester course

Committee needs to be formed.

Ad-Hoc – Define admission, advancement, and retention requirements.

High priority for Dean.

Schedule Council meetings for Fall Semester

Next Council meeting scheduled for Tuesday, September 18

Regular monthly meetings on Tuesdays from that point forward

Tentative dates October 16, November 13, December 11 (which is during Exam Week)

New Business

None

Announcements

None

The Council meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM.