

Natural Sciences and Mathematics Council Meeting Minutes
23 January 2018 in SU2579 3:30-5:00 PM

Call to Order

- Presiding: Hans Gottgens
- Present: John Bellizzi, Kathy Fisher, Michael Heben, Edith Kippenhan, David Krantz, Brenda Leady (secretary), Song-Tao Liu, Tom Megeath, Timothy Mueser, Hassam Quershi, Kathy Shan, Qin Shao, Don Stierman, Rebecca Sturges, Deborah Vestal and Sibylle Weck-Schwarz
- Absent: Jim Anderson (excused – Sonmez Sahutoglu substituting), Brian Ashburner (excused)
- Others: Terry Romer, John Plenefisch

Approval of Minutes

- Nov 14 and Dec 12 2017 minutes approved.

Unfinished Business

- Impacts of changing NSM College admission standards on SSI (guest: Terry Romer, Office of Budget and Planning)
 - Discussion in Nov and Dec meetings on proposed changes in College admission standards might have on students, student success, retention rates, prestige, graduation rates, etc. Hans provided data on current admission standards and student retention rates. Current NSM admission standards are ACT of 20 or higher OR a high school GPA of 2.5 or higher.
 - December discussion pointed out the impact of changing admission standards on our students but also on SSI subsidy and overall revenue equation.
 - Terry Romer, Director of Office of Budget and Planning
 - Slides from a presentation on the history of SSI at UT. Slides have been made available.
 - 2017 \$2.5 billion for all institutions to share
 - Old formula for SSI based on “butts in seats” – try to load your system with students
 - Current formula much more complicated. Numbers of students is still important (FTE). Formula impact for special emphasis students – academic, financial stresses, low ACT scores, race, adult students. Funding based on passing courses and student retention. Graduation more important. Research doctoral and MD students in different distribution pools.
 - A degree completion is worth more than a course completion.
 - 3 year moving average used for calculations.
 - UT performance in the model is relative to other institutions. Once you start doing poorly in the model, it’s difficult to start doing well. OSU will always get the most money because of their size.
 - We can project changes in share based on various inputs with a sensitivity analysis.
 - For FY 2017, SSI - 15% of SSI for MD students, 9% research doctoral students, 30% in completions, 46% in course completions for a total of \$109 million (7.3% of total budget)
 - Our share has been declining over last several years while others increasing (Cincinnati).
 - Every time a dollar is given to another school, that dollar has to be taken from the shares of other schools. Even if we are improving, if other schools are improving more, we would lose money.
 - UT has had declining enrollments for several years. Stabilized this year. Less attempted FTEs mean less potentially completed FTEs. No increase in completion can make up for declining enrollment.
 - Hans – if you were given hypothetical changes in admission standards, could scenarios be run to predict the impact on SSI?

- Terry – If we lose 50 students due to admission criteria changes, 25 might go to another program in UT and 25 might not attend UT at all. It won't impact institution level results. The other thing to consider is the Contribution Margin reports provided to Provost. Based on courses taught versus majors. If a prospective NSM student moved to University College, UC gets \$0.25 for your student. If that student stays in NSM, you get the full \$1.
- Terry – You shouldn't make decisions based solely on SSI. It takes very large changes in number of majors to have marginal changes in SSI. OSU could simply take in more students and swamp any changes we make based solely on their large number of students.

Council Committee Reports

Curriculum Committee (John Bellizzi)

- BIOL6200/8200 Advanced Signal Transduction
 - Committee approves removal of prerequisite based on Banner enrollment issues
 - Discussion on D- in course description
 - Send back to Biological Sciences for clarification

Election Committee (Sybille Weck-Schwarz)

- Elections coming up.

Academic Grievance Committee (Hans Gottgens for Tim Mueser)

- College needs final grades appeals form. Committee will work on this.

University reports and Proposals

Faculty Senate (David Krantz)

- Overall for UT, retention rate is now just under 75%. Now a task force for student success.
- Edith – Crisis Training Workshops – Please encourage faculty to send graduate students.

Graduate Council Report (Song-Tao Liu)

- Awards for graduate students today.
- Discussion of Strategic Plan for grad school going on.
- Midwest student symposium date set for April 7 – call for judges.

College Reports and Proposals

NSM Chairs meeting (Hans Gottgens)

- Final grades appeal form already discussed.
 - Undergraduate tuition guarantee program for Fall 2018. Locked in for four years. If they go past 8 semesters, they are part of the new cohort.
 - Linked to degree that has 120 credit hours.
 - If a student is excluded from a course that impedes degree progress for a reason beyond their control, that course would be free when it is offered next.

Meeting adjourned 5:01pm.