Iowa State University
Department Chair’s Cabinet Minutes December 9, 2016
8:15-9:30, 3150 Beardshear

Attendance: Dawn Bratsch-Prince, Sue Blodgett, Kristen Constant, Chad Gasta, William Jenks, Phil Martin, Jo Anne Powell-Coffman, Jonathan Sturm, Terry Wipf, Jonathan Wickert, Thomas Baum, Tim Day, Jackie Rees Ulmer, Joe Haynes, Christine King, Sarah Nusser, Katharine Hensley

Minutes from November, 2016 Approved

SVPP update: Dawn Bratsch-Prince and Jon Wickert

- Student innovation center plans reviewed. Who are occupants, etc.? No one department will own it.
- BOR approved tuition and fee requests. 2% increase for resident, 3% for graduate, out of state, vet med; differential tuition for five programs (not the original junior senior proposal). There will be a standardization of all the differential tuitions. There will be a committee that includes students that will advise on the use of the funds.
- Student on-boarding committee. Cyclone 101 introductory class proposal was viewed as too expensive/unwieldy. Regardless, there is a need for a more extensive “orientation” that includes topics like sexual assault issues, financial literacy, etc. New student on-boarding committee of 29 people formed. Will there be online modules, live programming (before classes? Throughout freshman year?). An issue is that too many different groups address them and no one group knows what all the others are doing.
- Email from BOR office: very complimentary note about the effect of one of the faculty on the life of a student.
- Biennial report on faculty activity will be done soon. Goes to the BOR. Last report had faculty doing 57 hours/week, and split into various areas.

Faculty Senate: - Jonathan Sturm
(Executive Board meetings don’t start until next Tuesday)

- Consideration about what information promotion candidates will be able to see in their packages is still going on in small committee and has not gone out to full senate.
- RPA council have suggested amendments to open access policy. That will come to faculty representatives by January.
- BOR is apparently open to discussion regarding how they made decision on tuition decision, e.g., this time they changed the jr-sr proposal to departmental differential tuition.
- University award for inclusiveness: call for nominations
- Better implantation of student evaluations of teaching task force has begun.
- Pete Reilly: suffering from stage 4 cancer.
- Discussion of publication of the free speech event that was held Dec 8

VPR – Sarah Nusser

- Gave outline type handout. Should be attached to minutes. Outlines areas of thanks.
- Two NEH fellowship awards; STEM diversity awards have come in; Two major instrumentation awards. Examples of successes
• New vision around grant challenge themes will be convened in spring.
• Presidential Interdisciplinary Research Initiative now open to areas outside of data-driven science.
• Arts and Humanities Vision Team group will be forming in Spring.
• VPR instrumentation program will cover up to 1/3 of funding for certain purchases.
• Internal funding chart provided.
• “Invest in enhancing and modernizing research infrastructure”: Consolidating all microscopy into a single center. This is going into the basement of molecular biology in 6-9 months. Space utilization study in MBB and Carver completed. Greenhouse project: needs to address space and funding issues. Trying to develop better network of grant officers.
• Some discussion of the issues that come up between grant coordinators in departments and central.

**Katharine Hensley – Faculty Development Coordinator**

• Introduction of herself; new to the position in the last three months.
• She reviewed the faculty development programs that she oversees.
• Reviewed some issues from Inside Higher Ed article on issues regarding department chairs.
• Several handouts were distributed covering current training workshops.
• Open discussion of “chair issues” for future training ensued.

Constant reviewed topics for further meetings, and meeting was adjourned 9:33.