

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
Meeting of the Assembly October 30, 2018

MINUTES

Members present: Barry, Battles, Berven, D., Berven, K., Campoy-Cubillo, Cheng, Cholis, Eldridge, Epstein, Graves, Jamison, Kidger, Li, Ma, McDonald, McGinnis, Reger, Rooney, Smith, Smith Bohannon, Spagnuolo, Trivedi, VanKooten, Wieden

Members absent: Chapman, Corso, Eis, Hansen, Tonsing

Ex-Officio present: Banes-Berceli, Corcoran, Stewart

Dean Corcoran called the meeting to order at 3:30 P.M.

1. Approval of the Minutes of September 25, 2018

The minutes of the meeting of September 25, 2018, were approved.

2. OU Campaign, Mike Westfall, Vice President, University Advancement

Dean Corcoran introduced Mike Westfall (vice president, University Advancement) and Allison Gaudreau (senior director of Campaign Management who were present to provide an overview of the OU campaign, which has the motto of "Aspire, Advance. Achieve.")

Ms. Gaudreau provided a brief history of philanthropy at OU from 1995 to the present and stated that the majority of the sum total of \$90 million was primarily from smaller gifts up to 2009. She said that from 2009-2018, there were starts and stops, with three campaign directors and several feasibility studies that were done during that time. Since 2015, fundraising has gone up dramatically and closed last year at \$12 million.

Mr. Westfall stressed the importance of being successful in the area of principal gifts, which are those of \$1 million or more. He pointed out a few relevant statistics, such as that OU is located in a rich county, that the average age of alumni is 34 years old, and that the primary gift giving age is 55-65. He outlined the infrastructure systems leading to the emerging priorities for the present campaign, including (1) Unit Support Strategies, (2) Corporate Foundation Relations, (3) Principal Gifts, and (4) Planned Giving. He emphasized the importance of the development of relationships and spreading the awareness of the vision of the future because people will only invest in a vision.

Ms. Gaudreau said that campaigns draw attention to "what could be," and she noted that there has to be a timeframe. She said that the present campaign will be a comprehensive campaign and so every dollar will matter, whether the gift is large or small. She indicated that the silent phase of the campaign will end on November 17, after which there will be a public campaign launch announcement and a gala event where 600 guests are expected at \$200 per guest and for which the key note speaker will be Malcom Gladwell, a New York Times best-selling author. Mr. Westfall said that they are seeking 100 percent participation by the campus community and asked Assembly members to encourage others to

donate, to identify prospects, and to participate in the process because a successful campaign has to be an “all in” effort.

3. Re-endorsement of the Ph.D. in Applied Computational Physics

Dean Corcoran gave a brief history of the Ph.D. in Applied Computational Physics, noting that it was passed by the OU Senate back in 2011, but did not go forward to the Board of Trustees at that time at the request of Physics. In 2018, Physics Chair Andrei Slavin indicated that they were ready to move forward because they had the position needed for the program. Dean Corcoran explained that he was looking for a re-endorsement by the Assembly, but he said that the core of the proposal is the same as it was back in 2011. David Garfinkle noted that the only difference is that the proposal is minus the position request because it was secured.

The motion was made to re-endorse the Ph.D. in Applied Computational Physics (Garfinkle, Cheng). The motion passed unanimously.

4. Joint CAS-SECS Bioengineering Department

Motion: *Formation of a new Bioengineering Department (“little d”) under the shared and equal governance between CAS and SEC*

Dean Corcoran provided observations on the matter of the Bioengineering Department. He said that Bioengineering has never been an accredited program and that the College and the School of Engineering and Computer Science (SECS) have been back and forth about governance. He said that they have now developed a revised curriculum and observed that the movement is towards the ‘little d’ department, meaning that it is not in the contract and it is not a tenure home, and so tenure would not be granted in this “department.” He explained that faculty members would have their tenure in another department, which makes this a unique niche and which puts Biology front and center.

Shailesh Lal (Biology) was present to add his insights and said that this program, which started back in 2007, and now has 85 students, has not been accredited because it is usually housed in Engineering. However, he stressed that it needs to have equal, shared governance or the CAS will lose it to Engineering. To fix that issue, the proposal is for this program to be upgraded to a ‘little d’ department with equal governance between CAS and SECS. He said the upgrade is important for recruitment because students will go where there is a Department of Bioengineering. Mr. Cheng asked whether the chair of this “department” would attend the Chairs meetings, and Mr. Corcoran indicated that they would. Mr. Garfinkle asked about the contract issues, such as how would they be grouped for merit pay. He questioned who would make the schedule and assign the classes, how the merit criteria would work, whether that could be done unilaterally, and would there need to be a change to the contract. Mr. Corcoran emphasized that everyone has a primary appointment in a department where they would get tenure, and explained that this proposal was really to change the name in order to give the program more credit.

There was a motion to waive the second reading (Berven, Cheng). The motion was approved unanimously.

The motion was made to approve the request for the formation of a new Bioengineering Department (“little d”) under the shared and equal governance between CAS and SEC (Battle, Cheng). The motion was approved unanimously.

5. Good and Welfare

Dean Corcoran reminded Assembly members that the State of the University address would take place two weeks from today, and two weeks after that is the date for the All-College Assembly, to which everyone in the College (full-time faculty, part-time faculty, staff) is invited.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dikka Berven