I. Moment of Reflection

The Policy Council members observed a moment of reflection in memory of the students and faculty affected by the Virginia Tech tragedy and in remembrance of School of Education staff member Chris Essex.

II. Approval of the Minutes from the March 28, 2007 Policy Council Meeting (07.30M)

A motion was made by Bichelmeyer and seconded by Korth to approve the minutes from the March 28, 2007 Policy Council meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

III. Announcements and Discussions

a. Dean’s Report

Dean Gonzalez updated the members on budgetary matters significant to the School. The Trustees are likely to be much more conservative regarding undergraduate tuition than what was originally anticipated. Graduate tuition is expected to rise significantly, as proposed by the School.

Dean Gonzalez announced that the Education Council met recently to approve a number of new programs and license additions. Additionally, they discussed the common lower division curriculum for elementary majors. The campus reports were positive regarding the discussions that the regional campuses are having with Ivy Tech and internally. Diana Lambdin and Jill Shedd have discussed issues with the Bloomington Ivy Tech campus to identify specific courses that will articulate with our program. Although progress is being made with this issue, further work needs to be completed.
Dean Gonzalez announced that the School of Education Alumni Association will be sponsoring a program tonight in Indianapolis that will address high school reform. Charlie Barman, Ethan Yazzie-Mintz, and Gene White will be serving on the panel of speakers.

IV. New Business

a. Standing Committee Annual Reports

Levinson asked Don Warren to elaborate on the statement regarding “uneven reliance on the rules of evidence in various sections of dossiers” in the Promotion, Tenure and Contracts Committee’s annual report. Warren stated that the number of publications varied in the different sections of the dossier, including the chair’s letter and the candidate’s vita. Additionally, the categories of the publications (teaching, service, and research) could vary. Warren stated that he believed these issues should be dealt with at the departmental level. The committee also noticed that in the personal statements of the candidates there were supposed assertions of fact that could be better characterized as opinion. Cummings added that uniformity needs to be made in the candidate’s letters, the chair’s letters, and throughout the dossier. Korth questioned the committee’s finding regarding clinical faculty, and Warren stated that campus-wide positions need to be made on the Bloomington campus to clarify guidelines, and that the Policy Council may need to address this.

Enrique Galindo presented the Long-Range Planning Committee’s annual report. Regarding the follow-up to the 2006 retreat, the committee decided to submit the recommendations to standing committees, rather than creating new task forces for these matters. As the committees review these retreat recommendations, Galindo encouraged the committees to think about ways to monitor progress toward reaching the strategic goals. Secondly, the committee was charged with revision of the constitution. As a first step, the committee polled the chairs of standing committees. The responses received indicated that major revisions were not needed, but further inquiries will be made to committees that did not respond to the committee’s requests. The committee also polled faculty about themes for this year’s retreat. The committee has decided on a broad theme that includes research, engagement, and outreach.

In addition to its annual report, Levinson commented that the Undergraduate Scholarship Committee, through Dorothy Slota, has submitted comments about ways to organize the workload of the Scholarship Committee differently. Dilworth encouraged the Scholarship Committee to consider the demographics of the scholarship recipients. Gonzalez added that he has been impressed with the diversity of scholarship recipients in recent years. In regards to the reorganization of the committee’s workload, Lambdin clarified that as new scholarships become available that are not a result of an endowment, the organization of the Scholarship Committee may need to be reconsidered.

Several questions were raised about the overlapping work of the Undergraduate Scholarship Committee and the Recruitment, Admission, and Financial Aid (RAFA) Committee. These issues were raised in the RAFA Committee’s annual report. Gerardo
Lopez commented that RAFA spent time trying to understand its identity as a committee. The formal charge and actual practices of the committee do not seem to agree. Levinson said that these issues will need to be addressed by the Long-Range Planning Committee in their revisions to the Constitution.

Sara Baumgart commented on the Distinguished Alumni Award Committee’s annual report. She asked that the Policy Council consider the inclusion of emeriti faculty from each campus as committee members. Their knowledge of the profession and alumni base are critical to the committee’s discussions.

Levinson emphasized the concept of “distributed leadership” that the Committee on Diversity included in its annual report. Committee chair Russ Skiba commented that the committee has continued to work on recruitment and retention efforts over the past year. As they took on this initiative, they were often confronted with institutional issues. These issues included a lack of senior faculty on the committee, and that if diversity is to be considered a core value, it needs to be integrated into all the activities of the departments and committees. Bichelmeyer asked Skiba to further address the issue of Praxis. Skiba commented that Christine Bennett has completed research regarding the Praxis exam being a barrier for admission for students of color. Furthermore, some students take the Praxis relatively late in their academic career, so they have completed coursework in education, but are not admitted. Larger questions may need to be addressed regarding whether we as an institution agree that Praxis should be a certification instrument. Skiba pointed out that a number of recommendations have been considered by the committee, including increasing scholarships for underrepresented populations, increased preparation seminars for students, and encouraging students to take the Praxis during their first year of college.

Levinson introduced the annual report of the Lectures & Seminars Committee. He questioned the committee’s mission to exclusively be limited to coordinating the Miller lecturers. He stated that many faculty members feel there should be other structures in place to facilitate more speakers. Committee chair David Flinders commented that in addition to the Miller series, a subgroup of Lectures & Seminar committee member have been involved with the Faculty Research Colloquia. Flinders stated that there is no standing pool of funds that are available for small lectures.

Levinson commented on the International Program Committee’s annual report. The International Programs Committee was directed by the Dean to manage a global and international initiatives fund to begin activities related to international issues. The committee used the early part of the year to decide how to use these funds and guidelines for grants and funds that will be available next year. A graduate assistant position has been created to help coordinate efforts with the Research & Development Office relating to International programs.

Kloosterman commented that the IUB Faculty & Budgetary Affairs Committee annual report describes their activities, which included addressing equity issues and promotion within the research ranks. They also tried to address issues of service fatigue, but they
believe this issue will now best be addressed by the Long-Range Planning Committee’s
efforts.

Dean Gonzalez responded to the IUPUI Faculty & Budgetary Affairs Committee’s
annual report. The issue of salary disparity for teaching summer courses has been an
issue at IUPUI. A summer cap was intended to be a temporary measure during difficult
financial times at IUPUI. Unless a good rationale can be made to support continuation of
this cap, Dean Gonzalez would like to explore opportunities for changing this policy. He
will be speaking with committee members regarding this change. He clarified that in
regards to the proposed changes to the committee’s description, he assumes that they
mean that the committee will advise the Dean through the Executive Associate Dean,
especially on budgetary affairs issues.

The Council also reviewed annual reports from the following committees:
- IUPUI Committee on Teacher Education
- Graduate Studies Committee
- Committee on Teaching
- IUB Grievance Committee
- IUPUI Grievance Committee

IV.  Old Business

a.  Core Campus Report

Levinson referred members to document 07.32 which includes the President’s report to
the trustees with recommendations about the Core Campus system, a response written by
Dean Gonzalez to the University Faculty Council, and a document approved by the
IUPUI faculty in February about the Core Campus issues.

Cummings asked where the February document from IUPUI had been sent. Dean
Gonzalez responded that the document was sent to him, and this document was the
impetus for his recent meeting with a number of senior faculty members at IUPUI.
Following this discussion, Dean Gonzalez sent his response to the UFC. Since that time,
the document has been sent to the Policy Council as part of this discussion. Murtadha
added that the document was also sent to the chair of the IUPUI Faculty Council, who
had solicited responses to the Core Campus Report and the Bonser Report.

Dean Gonzalez stated he was originally encouraged by the affirmation of the Core
Campus by the IUPUI faculty response. However, when reading the specific
recommendations, he felt like some of the recommendations were antithetical to the Core
Campus idea. Based on its original definition in the 1970s, the Bonser Report defines the
Core Campus idea as a single academic entity that is geographically distributed on both
the Bloomington and Indianapolis campuses. One of the critical issues of having a single
academic entity is having a well-identified academic leader in the form of a faculty-
approved dean. As reflected in his response to the UFC, Dean Gonzalez stated that there
has been ambiguity involved with the role of Dean. Dean Gonzalez said that there have
been experiences in the last couple of years in which the University Deans have not been involved in discussions that involve both campuses. He said he strongly supports the President’s recommendation to clarify the role of the Dean. He is also concerned about campus specific processes for tenure and promotion. He believes there needs to be a single process, but that process can and should include participation on both campuses. Regarding core campus committee participation, Dean Gonzalez reminded members that the last constitutional amendment process, including requirements for Indianapolis faculty on Core Campus committees, was a response to IUPUI faculty members’ request for greater representation and involvement. In regards to program review, Dean Gonzalez stated that Committees on Teacher Education approve programs on both campuses separately and then both filter up to Policy Council. This is important, because changes to teacher education programs will impact the School at large. Dean Gonzalez said he has engaged in discussion with IUPUI faculty members about the criteria for recommending doctoral programs. If a proposal should come forward, the Graduate Studies Committee and Policy Council will consider those proposals. Dean Gonzalez said he believes there are opportunities to accomplish the suggested changes to alumni relations. He has engaged in discussion with the Alumni Association to give more attention to alumni from each campus. He said he expressed these concerns to the group of senior faculty that he met with in Indianapolis. Parts of these opinions are included in his response letter to UFC.

Cummings pointed out that the faculty response from IUPUI was approved by 24 faculty members with only 2 members abstaining. This certainly shows that there is consensus among the Indianapolis faculty on these issues, and it is a powerful statement.

Bichelmeyer asked whether this is represented in the Bonser Report, because it does not sound positive about the Core Campus. Helfenbein said that the Bonser Report was based on the ad hoc Policy Council meeting that took place last summer. Helfenbein said there was no agenda for this meeting, so there was no opportunity to discuss issues with other faculty members. It was after that meeting that many IUPUI faculty members felt that they needed to become engaged in conversation about Core Campus issues. These conversations and Dean Gonzalez’s visit to an IUPUI faculty meeting resulted in the creation of the IUPUI faculty response. Bichelmeyer added that the Bonser Report was also based on additional data that had been collected at the multi-campus level. She said concerns that were expressed at the summer meeting were not necessarily represented in the Bonser Report on the School of Education. She understands now that the issues that were addressed in the IUPUI faculty response may not have been issues that were discussed fully in the summer meeting, and therefore were not addressed in the final Bonser Report. Bichelmeyer added that one result of the summer meeting was that there is awareness of more hardship experienced by IUPUI faculty with the Core Campus than there are with Bloomington faculty.

Lopez said he understands the IUPUI faculty response is that we talk a great deal about Core Campus, but we do not act like a Core Campus. If we want the Core Campus system to work, we must begin acting differently. For example, faculty are affiliated with one particular campus, not with a single Core Campus academic unit.
Bichelmeyer added that one issue that was discussed in the Bonser meeting is that there is a lack of opportunities for faculty to meet face-to-face. She suggested that the availability to have a bus that commutes between the two campuses would allow more interaction between the faculty on the two campuses.

Gonzalez responded that this idea has come forward in other places. He said some of the issues that have become barriers for specific schools to becoming Core Campus schools are institutional in nature. He believes that there is a natural tendency to want to identify with your campus. Forces outside any particular school affect the Core Campus, and that needs to be addressed by the Trustees and the President. Transportation issues are one issue that the School could not do by itself, but is an institutional issue.

Berghoff stated that the notion of what “single entity” means causes confusion, and she doesn’t believe that Indianapolis faculty are talking about being one school. The contexts are different on both campuses. She believes that at Indianapolis, the faculty see the Core Campus potential as a dynamic, not a single academic identity. The Core Campus could provide some level of differences based on the context, and would allow further interactions to take place outside of the single campus concept.

McCarthy stated that she believes we need to have face-to-face interactions to discuss these issues. Since to her knowledge no one has ever suggested that the School of Education pull apart into two different entities, we need to carefully consider the strategies that will promote the Core Campus.

Bichelmeyer asked how the School should move forward with these issues. Levinson responded that it will depend partially on whether the Trustees approve President Herbert’s recommendations, and that the issue then becomes what methods are used to have discussions among faculty on Core Campus issues. Korth suggested that we honor the work that has already been completed as a start to get IUPUI faculty members to talk about their proposed changes.

Bichelmeyer asked what faculty can do to support Dean Gonzalez in addressing the changes that are needed at the institutional level. Dean Gonzalez responded that he believes that faculty can help by the Policy Council acting on the President’s recommendations.

Rosario mentioned that the meeting that Dean Gonzalez had with senior faculty recently was the beginning of an ongoing conversation. The faculty members continue to engage the Dean in conversation about Core Campus obstacles. The faculty plan to include the Chancellor and the Provost at IUPUI in discussion about these issues, and then they will continue to discuss them with the Dean.

Gonzalez stated that the discussions that are happening now are different from previous discussions about the Core Campus, because these discussions are happening at an institutional level. The problems that the School of Education have experienced are also
happening in other academic units. Gonzalez said that the President has asked that the School engage in a year-long dialogue about ways to strengthen the Core Campus. The Trustees are likely to discuss the recommendations at their next meeting in May.

VI. New Course Requests

M200 Artifacts, Museums and Everyday Life 3 credits BL/IUPUI
In a combination of museum visits and classroom exercises, develop museum-going skills by exploring a range of artifacts reflecting varied media, world cultures, and inquiry disciplines. Discussion, guided conversational techniques, readings and analytical writing assignments draw on “learning from objects” literature, art history, criticism, and museum education materials.

Levinson adjourned the meeting at 3:10 PM.