MINUTES
POLICY COUNCIL
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
September 26, 2007
1:00 PM
School of Education
IUB Room 2140
IUPUI Room 3138E

** The following are summaries of speaker contributions **

Members Present:  Bichelmeyer, Bull, Lewison, Chapman, Cummings, Flinders, Helfenbein, Lopez, Thompson Alternates Present:  Anderson, Kunzman, Skiba Dean’s Staff Present:  Gonzalez, Kloosterman, McMullen, Murtadha Staff Representative: Student Representatives:  Visitors:  Hay, Boling

I. Approval of Minutes from the April 25, 2007 Policy Council Meeting (08.04M)

Approval of Minutes from the April 25, 2007 Agenda Committee Meeting (07.33M)

A motion was made by Cummings to change the record of minutes from the April 25, 2007 Policy Council meeting to read “…with only 2 members abstaining,” rather than “sustaining” (p.5, paragraph 2). The motion was approved by Bull and seconded by Chapman. The motion was approved unanimously.

II. Announcements and Discussions

a.  Dean’s Report

Gonzalez discussed the addition of new faculty at IUB and IUPUI, as well as a new president for Indiana University. The president held a retreat for Academic Deans and Senior Administrators throughout the university over the summer, which the Dean attended.

The President’s agenda for this retreat included
1.  Introduction of a Strategic Planning Process for the entire university
2.  Building collaboration between IUB and IUPUI
3.  Discussion of issues confronting the regional campuses
4.  Discussion of educational effectiveness, learning retention, and graduation at IU
5. Financial Issues
6. Capital Works, a new master plan for Indiana University
7. New Research Administration, managing compliance issues in research
8. New Vice President for Economic Development
9. Updates on new legislation for Life Sciences at IU
10. Diversity Issues, new Vice president for Development of Diversity Initiatives
11. International Strategic Plans

Gonzalez reported that the retreat was an important event for Indiana University. There has not been a meeting which included all of the Deans and Chancellors from all of the regional campuses, as well as Vice-presidents and the President, in one place in a very long time. The president seems to be very excited about making noticeable changes (for the better) at IU, with his overall goal being to elevate the research status of Indiana University, nationally and internationally. He plans to ensure that the academic mission of IU really drives the university. There seems to be a lot of excitement and support for the new President’s agenda.

Gonzalez also discussed the Pathways Initiative, which was one of two special requests made by the University to the general assembly this year. This initiative involves funding of goals set by the trustees, including increasing diversity and quality of students at IU. The special request was by the School of Education for funding to work with schools in “high need” areas of Indiana, to assist in their preparation of students for college and higher education. Unfortunately, that program was not funded. However, the School of Education has decided to continue this effort in a more limited way. An agreement has been signed by the School of Education and IPS to select two schools in Indianapolis as “Pathway Schools”. IU will provide support and resources, through meaningful engagement, to these schools and possibly expansion to others if funds become available. The hope is that overtime this interaction will demonstrate a marked improvement in student achievement, and ultimately in preparation for college.

A new position has been created, jointly funded by IU and IPS, for a Pathways Coordinator, who will manage much of this work at Arsenal Tech and Manual high schools. A new fund will also be created for faculty who are interested in pursuing work and research within this area. This will be discussed further at the Faculty retreat in October.

A fund to address the initiatives and goals of the Diversity Committee will also be set up as a Bloomington only fund. This will be available to faculty who may be interested in work or research in the area of diversity and increased representation of minorities within schools. The specifics of this fund will be discussed further at the Faculty Retreat.
The theme for the Fall Faculty Retreat, to be held on October 5 at Bradford Woods, will be the “Scholarship of Engagement”.

Bull requested more information on the core campus issue, and how it was addressed by the new president. Specifically, the question has been raised about whether the Core-campus and systems approach is a viable concept that serves the university well. The president and the trustees affirmed that the core campus should be strengthened and that we should also be moving away from the systems schools approach. The regional campuses will become more independent and more autonomous. The School of Education has been asked to submit a plan to the trustees by next year about ways the school can strengthen the core campus in Bloomington. The president has also created an Academic Dean’s Council, made up of all the Deans from Indianapolis and Bloomington’s campus, to bring the two campuses into closer collaboration. There was no discussion of creating new core campus schools.

b. Agenda Committee

Lopez reminded all that the Fall Faculty Retreat is planned for October 5, 2007 at Bradford Woods. He also made the announcement that there would be a Faculty meeting on November 2, 2007.

III. Old Business
a. Agenda Committee and Election of Chair of Policy Council

Lopez was serving as a temporary hosting chair for the current policy council meeting; however, he is not the permanent chair. Two issues need to be addressed concerning this situation, a) How people are nominated to the agenda committee and b) Who is eligible to serve on the agenda committee. According to the IU Constitution, only tenured track faculty are eligible to sit on the agenda committee. Therefore, Chapman, who was elected to the committee in April, is not eligible to serve, and thus a replacement needs to be found. Lopez also pointed out that holding the committee elections on the last meeting of the year may not be the most efficient, or appropriate, practice.

McMullen inquired as to whether this should involve a Constitutional change, so that Clinical Faculty should be allowed to serve on the Committee. Chapman pointed out that while this is important, it may not be an issue for today’s meeting, but one to consider throughout the year. Skiba also pointed out that the role of the Clinical Faculty is very important, and thus this issue should be one of high priority for the Council. Gonzalez said that the issue of the Clinical Faculty’s roles and titles is one of campus-wide importance and is currently being assessed at
IUB. Kloosterman suggested that this may be an issue for the Long Range Planning committee since it is a constitutional issue.

Lopez stated that before any of these things can be decided, a new member of the Agenda Committee must be elected, so that a new Chair of the Committee could be selected. Flinders nominated Bull to the committee. Bull accepted the election to the Agenda Committee.

The committee then discussed how the policy council chair would be elected. Gonzalez stated that the Chair must be elected from one of the three members of the Agenda Committee. Thompson was elected Chair of the committee at the April, 2007 meeting. However, she stated that she did not accept the nomination, because she is also currently the Chair of the Education Faculty at IUPUI, and does not wish to manage both positions.

Lopez pointed out that the way in which faculty are nominated and elected to the Agenda Committee needs to be addressed. Since members are elected at the last meeting of the year, and do not need to be present to be elected, in the last couple of years those who were not present at the meeting ended up as members of the committee. Bichelmeyer pointed out that this has been an issue every year and an appropriate policy needs to be established. Bull inquired as to whether a faculty member is given the option of declining their nomination (or election) to the Agenda Committee. Flinders stated that historically, the policy has been that a faculty member may not decline the nomination, except in exceptional circumstances (i.e. sabbatical, etc.). Thompson and Lopez stated that this may be an inappropriate policy, given that Thompson was elected as Chair in her absence, while the other members present were given the opportunity to decline the nomination at the meeting.

Bull suggested another vote, by secret ballot, on Chair of Policy Council. Lopez questioned whether this was constitutionally permissible, since the vote did not occur at the appropriate meeting. However, Gonzalez reported that this was in agreement with the constitution. He also stated that further discussion of faculty responsibility and the expectations of faculty governance is necessary.

Bull made a motion to hold another vote, by secret ballot, for Policy Council Chair. The ballot consisted of the three current members of Policy Council (Bull, Thompson, Lopez). Flinders seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and passed.

Thompson then respectfully withdrew herself from the committee, due to the fact that she could not accept another election to Chair. A new member needed to be elected to the committee. The new member had to be a member of IUPUI faculty, for which only Helfenbein would be eligible.
Helfenbein was nominated and accepted the position on the Agenda Committee. However, members of the council then indicated that it was inappropriate for a junior, untenured faculty member to be asked to take on such a large amount of extra work and responsibility, as the Committee would require.

Skiba suggested that Thompson remain on the Agenda Committee, with the knowledge that she may turn down the position of Chair, if re-elected. Thompson accepted this proposal and the committee agreed to this suggestion. The Policy Council held a secret ballot election for Chair of the Policy Council, the ballot included Bull, Thompson, and Lopez. Bull was elected the new Chair of Policy Council.

Bichelmeyer then made the motion that the Long Range Planning Committee be tasked with determining the procedures and qualifications for election of the Policy Council, Agenda Committee and the Chair of that Committee. Procedures and qualifications will address the appropriateness of inclusion of clinical faculty and faculty members from IUPUI and guidelines for acceptance or refusal of elected positions. This will require a constitutional amendment and should be prepared for the consideration of the Policy Council by no later than February 20, 2008. The motion was seconded by Lewison. Discussion was held and the motion was passed by Policy Council.

Murtadha made the suggestion that the committee also take a look at the proportionality issues in regards to general committee membership, specifically in terms of IUPUI v. IUB faculty proportions.

IV. New Business
a. Approval of Standing Committee Memberships (08.02R)

Chapman stated that her name needed to be added to the International Committee membership list. She also pointed out that at least one Policy Council member needed to be included on each standing committee.

Bichelmeyer made a motion to accept the standing committee’s memberships. The motion was seconded by Lopez. After a brief discussion, the motion was voted on and passed by Policy Council.

b. Approval of Policy Council Changes (08.00R)

Cummings pointed out that he needs an alternate for his position on Policy Council. Similarly, two graduate student representatives still need to be found for the Committee.
Bull suggested that the committee accept the list of Members for 2007-08 as is, with the amendment that future revisions may need to be made. Lewison made the motion to accept this suggestion, Flinders seconded the motion. The Policy Council voted and passed the motion.

c. Proposal to Convert SoE IST Certificate Program to IUB Certificate (08.06)

Boling presented on behalf of the IST Department. She reported that their current Certificate Program has a steady enrollment, with more applications coming in every day. Applicants to the program report that it means more to them to take core classes plus electives, rather than a series of workshops. They report that it would be more beneficial to them to have official certificates issued by Indiana University, especially in terms of funding. The majority of the participants in the program are professionals, already working in the field of education, and in many cases their jobs require official acknowledgement that they have participated in a rigorous training process.

McMullen reported that this change was suggested by the Registrar’s office, which indicated that, as of now, there is no recognition of the completion of this program on student’s transcripts. If this Certificate Program is approved, even students who completed the program in past semesters could receive a formal certificate and transcript change for past program completion.

Bull inquired about the differences in the stated Certificate requirements on page 1 of the program information sheet and the requirements stated on the Program of Studies form (specifically concerning the courses R541 and R547). Boling explained that some students may be allowed to skip R541, if they already have the pre-requisite skills. Barry suggested changing the Program of Studies form to reflect this distinction.

Barry Bull made a motion to approve the request for this change of certificate. A vote was held and the approval was passed.

d. Proposal to Rename the M.S. Program in Educational Psychology as Learning and Developmental Sciences (08.07)

Ken Hay presented on behalf of the Learning Sciences department. Hay reported that the department wishes to change the name of their Masters program in Educational Psychology to one more in line with the name of their Doctoral Program for the same department, namely a Masters of Science in Learning and Developmental Sciences. When the Doctoral program was created last year, the school neglected to rename the Masters program already in place. Hay and Mary McMullen reported that the
The proposed M.S. program will consist of three tracks of emphasis: Educational Psychology, Inquiry, and Learning Sciences (a new addition with the name change).

Barry Bull inquired as to whether this name change had been approved by the Graduate Program Committee and the Counseling and Educational Psychology Department. Mary McMullen stated that this has been approved by these departments and several committees.

Dean Gonzalez stated that this proposal appears to be a new program, not simply a name change for an old program, given the addition of a new track and removal of several elective credits. McMullen stated that this has been a matter of debate within the department. After much debate the graduate programs committee decided that this change did not constitute a new program, due to the limited changes. Moreover, this program seems to be parallel in every way to the previously existing program requirements, except for the addition of the Learning Sciences track. However, the Gonzalez maintained that this change is a substantive program change and may warrant more than a simple name change approval.

Gonzalez also reported concern that the addition of the new track, along with a new name, could potentially create a program for which there is a limited student enrollment, thus creating a program that can’t be substantially sustained. McMullen and Hay reported that the current name has actually been cause for a more limited enrollment, due to the fact that the program cannot be marketed in an appropriate way to students who may be interested in Learning and Developmental Sciences.

Bichelmeyer suggested that this issue may actually involve two proposals, 1) a name change for the Masters Degree and 2) the creation of a new track for the Degree. However, McMullen stated that this name change (and track addition) is of utmost importance right now. Both McMullen and Hay feel that the program is at a critical point in its development and needs this M.S. degree in place for the upcoming fall recruitment and appointments.

Bull also questioned the minimal number of electives (9 hours) required for the Educational Psychology track of the Masters Degree. However, McMullen reported that this does adequately meet the requirements of the University. Hay reported that the structure of the courses has been designed to most efficiently synthesize training required for the emphasis of each track.

At this point, the meeting was called to an end because of a loss of quorum due to the lateness of the meeting. Bull stated that the discussion of this
name change would need to be postponed until the next meeting. Cummings suggested that the upcoming Counseling and Educational Psychology Department meeting may be a good time to discuss the issue again.

V. Courses Open for Remonstrance

a. Bull announced that the new course or course changes requests were open for remonstrance.

Bull adjourned the meeting at 3:10 PM.