

MINUTES
POLICY COUNCIL
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
October 15, 2008
1:00 P.M.
School of Education
IUB Room 2140
IUPUI Room 3138E

The following are summaries of speaker contributions

Member Present: B. Bull, B. Dennis, S. Eckes, F. Pawan, F. Robison, P. Sutton, C. Thompson **Alternates Present:** J. Anderson, R. Skiba, B. Vallance, A. Walton
Dean's Staff Present: D. Hossler, B. Sherwood, T. Brush and M. McMullen **Staff Representative:** J. Lutz **Student Representatives:** E. Hamilton, K. Moyer **Visitor:** Diana Lambdin

I. Approval of the Minutes from September 24th, 2008 Meeting (09.11M)

Corrections were suggested and the motion to accept the corrected minutes was unanimously approved.

II. Announcements and Discussion

a. Dean's Report

Executive Associate Dean Don Hossler gave updates about the Promotions and Tenure Committee. It is one of those most aggressive time lines that the committee has ever had. The process is well under way. At the Bloomington campus, with regards to the new faculty, there is structured formal orientation transition kinds of activities that have been held as compared to the past. There was a four hour orientation for new faculty earlier this year. A new faculty lunch will be hosted on October 21.

The agenda for the retreat has gone out.

Approximately eighty faculty members, from both campuses, have RSVP'd to attend the retreat.

Concerning the Bloomington campus, we are beginning to experience a convergence of events around enrollment and revenue. This requires us to be more thoughtful about what we are going to be doing in the future. It is being driven by a number of factors. This is not a crisis. It is announcing that there are things we have to pay attention to. The School of Education's reserves are quite healthy, so we have plenty of time to think

through these matters. Graduate enrollments are level. Undergraduate enrollment is declining. There appears to be a combination of a number of factors that are contributing to this. Scholars who have looked at this over time have often concluded that education is often one of the areas where first generation blue collar families often make the step into their first professional position. I start with that because there tend to be correlations, for example, between that being first generation, blue collar, and S.A.T. scores on the campus right now. The Bloomington campus is focusing heavily on S.A.T. scores as one of the criteria for admissions. Right now, for example, the odds of an education major being admitted to the School of Education has dropped from eighty percent to sixty percent. Gerardo will talk in more detail at a later time.

I am quite certain that the same sets of issues are confronting many academic units at Indianapolis. For all campuses, the amount of money received from state appropriations has been flat for some time. So you do not get additional state monies to help offset rising costs in salaries, healthcare benefits, electricity, etc. Simultaneously, the number of assessments from the campus and the President's office has been going up. In our case, we have rising assessments and declining enrollments. On the Bloomington campus, over the two to three years we will see more discussions about these issues and steps that are being taken to address them. Gerardo will talk in more detail at a later time.

I want to reiterate, this is not a suggestion that we have to act immediately to address these issues for next year. But if you look at trends, project them out, and look at our reserves, in about three years from now we need to have some pretty clear plans in place to address these issues.

Discussion followed and stressed the need to have a plan in place to tackle issues that are confronting the School of Education.

III. Old Business

As a recipient of the Diversity and Equity Grant, Chalmer Thompson gave a presentation about her proposal concerning resistance to change and diversification in education.

IV. New Business

Request for 2008 Nominations and Elections for Policy Council Elections to be electronic in 2009. Last meeting the Request for electronic Policy Council election was passed unanimously. A suggestion was made by Diana Lambdin to implement this procedure to help streamline the election process.

Bull pointed out that this motion will need to be voted on twice, once at the last meeting and once at this meeting. This is due to the fact that it will involve a change to the operating guidelines, which requires a vote at two consecutive policy council meetings, thus giving ample opportunity for faculty members to object to the changes.

This is the second motion to accept the request as written that the nominations and elections committee for the policy council elections to be electronic. The motion was second by Peg Sutton. The motion is passed unanimously.

Agenda Committee has put together some specific items together for the Technology Taskforce (09.13) Barry Bull opened a discussion about defining “the ideal role of technology.” Discussion evolved around changing the term “ideal” to “optimal.”

A motion to approve the taskforce and its intended goals was put forward by Chalmer Thompson, with the change of “ideal” to “optimal.” The motion was unanimously approved.

Campus Diversity Initiative due date is soon. There was discussion about how to define “unit.” Chalmer put forward that “unit” is defined, on the Bloomington campus, as the Bloomington campus. In other words, individual schools or faculty are not eligible. At the IUPUI campus, the initiative is open to individual schools or faculty. Currently, IUPUI faculty are submitting proposals.

The meeting was adjourned by Chalmer Thompson at 2:14 pm.