**What follows is a summary of speaker contributions**

Members Present: B. Edmonds, B. Maxcy, P. Carspecken, R. Martinez, Y. Cho, R. Hughes, C. Walcott; Alternate Members Present: S. Daley, V. Borden; Student Members Present: E. Mickey, M. Bienz; Staff Member Present: T. Niggle; Dean’s Staff Present: G. Gonzalez, J. Alexander; P. Rogan, R. Kunzman, T. Mason; Guests: M. McCrory, J. Rogers, M. Ward.

- Minutes from the December 10, 2014 Policy Council Meeting (15.32M) were unanimously approved.

I. Announcements and Discussions

Dean’s Report: Dean Gerardo Gonzalez

(See below.)

II. Old Business

Diversity Topic: Martin McCrory, Joyce Rogers, and Melissa Ward from the Office of the Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Multicultural Affairs (DEMA).

Representatives from DEMA spoke about their numerous efforts and programs aimed at increasing the number of students from underrepresented groups on campus and the quality of these students’ college experiences.

Discussion ensued and suggestions were made about how to expand the working relationship between the School of Education and DEMA.

III. New Business

(The “Dean’s Report” was delivered in conjunction with an update from the Dean about the January 16, 2015 meeting with the Provost concerning nominees for the Blue Ribbon Review Committee.)

The Dean discussed a productive meeting that took place on Friday, January 16th between himself, Phil Carspecken, Vic Borden, members of the Long-Range and Agenda Committee with Provost Lauren Robel, and Executive Vice President John Applegate about the Blue Ribbon Review Committee (BRRC) study. Thus far, three people have agreed to serve on the Committee. Two (maybe three) spots still need to be filled, and the meeting was primarily focused on generating a list of additional nominees. Phil Carspecken has a list of all the names that have been submitted for consideration, and a meeting will be held immediately after the
Policy Council adjourns to develop from that list recommendations about who else should be invited to join the BRRC.

At this point, the Dean asked Vic Borden, in his capacity as chair of the Long Range Planning (LRP) Committee, to provide an overview of that committee’s work related to the internal review. Borden discussed the various components of the internal review and the time frame for the committee’s work. Some discussion of the internal review ensued. The Dean thanked Borden for his—and the LRP committee’s—leadership on this matter.

The Dean proceeded to discuss the federal government’s proposed regulations concerning teacher preparation. If these regulations are adopted, they will become the framework of accountability for schools of education and for programs of teacher education in particular. A recent report from the National Education Policy Center (NEPC) at the University of Colorado suggested that there are serious problems with these regulations. The regulations are open to public comment, and many educational organizations are encouraging their members to submit comments because the number—not just the substance—of comments makes a difference. Up to this point, it has been reported that only about 1500 comments have been submitted nation-wide. The Dean encouraged faculty to submit comments if they have feedback and to encourage their colleagues to do the same. The deadline for submitting comments is February 2.

The Dean also mentioned a bill introduced in the Indiana legislature (Senate Bill 566). One piece of the bill makes it possible for anyone with a Bachelor’s degree in a STEM area and a 3.0 GPA to become certified to teach with only a minor in education. This aspect of the bill is reflective of the conversation around REPA and raises, again, the question of whether the SoE can develop an education minor that is of high quality and would ensure that field experiences and other components would provide minimum levels of qualification for certification in secondary education. If this legislation passes, we will not have a choice but to do so. This is something we need to be mindful of and prepared for. The Dean will distribute the bill to the Policy Council for faculty’s consideration. (Note: SB 566 is available at this link: http://iga.in.gov/legislative/2015/bills/senate/566/#document-adcc85ae )

IV. New Courses/Course Changes
No courses for remonstrance.

**P. Carspecken adjourned the meeting at 2:45pm**