Minutes
4 April 2012

ATTENDING: Breidenthal, Bruckner, Ferrante, Hermanson, Jarboe, Kurosaka, Lin, Livne, Mesbahi, Milroy, Morgansen, Dabiri, Shumlak, You; Catlett

ABSENT: Feraboli, Slough, Vagners

MINUTES
Minutes of the March 5, 2012, meeting were not available. They will be reviewed and approved at the next meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
The Chair met with the Dean to review the ABB budget proposal submitted by this department. The Dean conveyed his appreciation of several proposals but opined that they should be funded internally or, in one case, through another existing source. He was friendly to the joint CEE/ME/AA student lab proposal, but the other two departments had not clearly expressed their support for it, so the proposal's interdisciplinary appeal was weakened. Hermanson will follow up with those chairs. O'Donnell also pointed out that funding received (and shared) by the College would come with performance expectations in the areas of admissions, degrees, and student credit hours.

Deidre Girard has announced that she will leave us for a position outside UW. Her last day in A&A will be April 13. Work is underway on a replacement hire.

There is little news on the state budget, except that it is thought to be flat (i.e., no major cuts, no strong growth) and be linked to performance targets. The College of Engineering anticipates growth of about 3.8%, which is expected to be primarily targeted at increasing enrollment.

The Chair reiterated the request that faculty not use laptops, I-pads, or other mobile devices during the faculty meeting unless presenting to the group.

The Annual Banquet will be on Friday, May 11, at the usual venue. Invitations should be in the mail this week. Ron Dittemore has accepted our invitation to be Distinguished Alumnus.

A recent rumor from Abu Dhabi claims that the long-standing funding approval delay is within Mubadala itself, rather than with the Abu Dhabi government as previously reported. Additional discussions with Mubadala are expected this month.

Our Academic Program Review, now five weeks overdue, is said to be coming “next week.”

Catlett advised that MyFD has a new feature on the Budget Summary page: a paragraph of text in red at the bottom of the page distinguishing budgeted amounts from actual revenue. This is a warning that there are unpaid invoices (for international sponsors, it may also indicate currency exchange liability). PIs may click on the term “Grant Tracker” in that paragraph—it is a link to data on invoices sent and paid. PIs may wish to contact Program Managers to follow up. On another topic, she reported that several federal agencies have stated their intention not to send new funding to PIs whose final reports on prior projects were overdue. None of the agencies involved so far fund AA research, but OSP reports seeing greater emphasis on application of these policies. Beware!
eFEC SYSTEM
Michael Anthony, Executive Director of Management Accounting & Analysis (MAA), gave a presentation on the new automated FEC system, which will solve much of the trouble we have had with summer salary in recent years, and reduce paper handling and staff time. The system has been live in the four health sciences departments on the calendar year cycle for several months; faculty there have found it easy and intuitive to navigate. The first cycle of notifications to the academic year departments is going to department coordinators now, though this reporting period covers autumn/winter, when tenure-track faculty have been on state funds for the most part, rather than grant funds. Instructions on certifying FECs can be found here: http://f2.washington.edu/fm/efecs/online-fec/certify/

STANDING COMMITTEES

Computer Committee: An STF proposal led by Brian Leverson to provide computer cluster to support design and CFD efforts was funded.

Undergraduate Committee: Direct Freshman Admits will be identified this week; there are 12-13 strong candidates, from which pool the department will probably admit 12-14 and retain 6-7 if last year’s record is a guide. Juniors have complained about having to study inertial navigation since, they argue, “all that” is done by GPS now. GPS is no use in space, or—some stranded motorists might point out—in some places on the ground either. The committee has discussed an issue of cheating in crowded exam rooms. The Chair recommended faculty arrange larger rooms for their exams. Recorder speculates that, in rooms with moveable desks, alternate rows of seating could be rotated 180 degrees, making it much more difficult to read/copy neighbors’ papers. The ABET process will start again next year.

Graduate Committee: Admission statistics were provided for the record but not discussed in view of the lateness of the hour (attached below). The application deadline for next year will be January 1, to make it easier to work with the College’s scholarship application deadline. An item requiring a faculty vote is approval of a proposed change by the Astrobiology program to add to their current certificate an option for a dual-title PhD. There are several requirements, including: advisor must be a member of Astrobiology and at least one other member of the committee must be from outside the student’s home department; the dissertation must be reviewed by the Astrobiology Standards committee before the general exam and again before the final exam; there are about 20 credits of additional classes in addition to the home department requirements. Other departments involved are Astronomy, Atmospheric Sciences, Biology, Earth & Space Sciences, APL, Environmental & Forest Sciences, Microbiology and Oceanography. The Grad Committee recommended acceptance; the faculty voted unanimously in favor of the proposal (13 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining).

Search Committee: Three more candidates will be coming, two this week. Shortly thereafter, committee chair Mesbahi will be seeking faculty and staff input on the candidates. The Chair recommended that committee indicate which applicants are “highly recommended,” versus “recommended” and “not recommended,” as was done in 2007-2008, to facilitate the faculty discussion. Faculty will then indicate the corporate choice.

AIAA: Our student chapter has just completed hosting of the annual Region 6 conference, with 29 talks in all. AA students won 5 awards. A copy of the report to AIAA (now slightly overdue) will be provided to the department.

Sigma Gamma Tau: Prof. You is reviewing lists of students for this year’s candidates.

Promotion & Tenure: There is at least one further non-mandatory case to consider.
PROFESSIONAL MASTERS PROGRAM

Prof. Morgansen and Ms. Girard described the experience of other UW departments with PMP programs, presented the expected benefits to A&A, and outlined a general plan for this department. Courses for the PMP could be more technically oriented than theoretical. They would have prerequisites but the students would not be expected to perform at the same level as the on-campus degree students; instructors would have to handle the material differently for the different groups. It is proposed that the AA program begin by admitting a class of 25 for each of the first three years, leading to a total PMP enrollment of 75. Enrollment rates and other factors can be assessed and amended as experience dictates. The committee recommended acceptance and the faculty vote approved unanimously (14 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining).

ADJOURN

Given the lateness of the hour, merit considerations and new business were tabled until a scheduled continuation meeting on Monday, 16 April. The meeting adjourned at 5:10 PM.
Current Grad Enrollment Sp-12

N= 130 (including 11 on leave)

Degree # Enrolled EDGE Controls Structures Fluids Plasma URM Female International Avg GPA
MAE-CMS 11 9 0 11 0 0 2 1 3 3.65
MAE 20 18 3 7 10 0 3 3 0 3.45
MSAA (MSAA-PHD-11) 55 19 19 7 23 6 4 8 4 3.6
PhD 43 0 13 5 10 15 4 9 11 3.61
Visiting Grad 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 3.53
TOTALS 130 46 35 30 44 21 13 21 19 3.57
Percent of Total 35% 27% 23% 34% 16% 10% 16% 15%

GNM 25

2012 Applicants

# Applied 157* Controls Structures Fluids Plasma URM Female International Avg Rank Avg GPA
% Applied 34% 21% 26% 18% 8.00% 13% 19% 2.92 3.5
% Admitted 53 15 10 15 7 9 4 1.98 3.7
% Total 34% 28% 19% 28% 25% 13% 17% 7.00%

* 2 did not declare an area of interest

2012 Master’s Applicants Only

# Applied 109 Controls Structures Fluids Plasma URM Female International Avg Rank Avg GPA
% Applied 28% 25% 39% 8% 5% 21% 27% 2.82 3.39
% Admitted 55 17 12 21 5 5 5 4 1.98 3.65
% Total 50% 31% 22% 38% 9% 9% 9% 9%

MAE MAE-CMS MSAA
Applied 45 12 52
% Total 41% 11% 48%
Admitted 19 7 29
% Total 34% 13% 53%
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**2012 Funding Offers**

- **RA**
  - 5 2 controls, 1 fluids, 2 plasma)
  - 2 acceptances, 1 decline, 2 TBD

- **TA**
  - 16 5 controls, 5 fluids, 2 plasma, 4 structures

- **Fellowships**
  - 11