

Minutes of Departmental Committee Meeting

1:30 Tuesday, May 9, 2017, Room 9341

Professors Berry, Bertram, Brunold, Burstyn, Cavagnero, Coon, Garand, Gellman, Hamers, Jin, Landis, McMahon, Moore, Nathanson, Schmidt, Shakhashiri, Sibert, Weisshaar, Wright attending.

Ariel Andrea, Matt Bowman, Arrietta Clauss, Libby Dowdall, Kayla Driscoll, Pat Egan, Brian Esselman, Bruce Goldade, Ilia Guzei, Jeanne Hamers, Nick Hill, Paul Hooker, Tony Jacob, Paul McGuire, Steve Myers, Jeff Nielsen, Vanessa Orr, Alan Silver, Chad Skemp, Cheri Stephens, Cecilia Stodd, Martha Vestling also attended.

Open Session

Minutes of the last meeting (04/11/17) were approved on a voice vote.

Announcements and Reports

Safety Update

Jeff Nielsen reminded the Department about the importance of personal protective equipment (PPE) in our labs. PPE is important in all situations, but is sometimes forgotten when pictures are being taken.

If you have any Summer visitors (students, scientists, undergrads, etc), let Jeff, Pat and Char know they're here.

Awards

Bob McMahon announced that Randy Goldsmith had received the Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar Award.

Administrative Update

Pat Egan reminded faculty that Summer salary information is due NOW.

Char and Pat need any information you have about Summer hires just as soon as possible.

Path Chair voting is due by Friday, May 12.

Graduation celebration is Friday, May 12 at 3 PM in Room 1361.

Report on the Building Project

Bob McMahon reported that the impasse has been broken, and that design team meetings will begin after Memorial Day.

Bob also reported that he has been communicating with the College about the L&S Facilities Master Plan. According to preliminary results, by national comparative metrics the Chemistry Department is significantly short of research space, even counting the research floor in the new building.

The justification to finish the new Chemistry building has gotten stronger because of the campus push to increase enrollments.

John Moore reported that meetings of the design team will be scheduled for May 31, June 1 and June 2.

John and Pam Doolittle have walked through the space that was remodeled for her over at the Medical Sciences Center (MSC), and Pam will be moving May 22.

Faculty Senate Report

Judith Burstyn reported that the Zoology Department will now be known as Integrative Biology.

Faculty Senate discussed the budget.

The Faculty Senate passed a resolution in support of transgender Students, Staff and Faculty.

New Chemistry Major Definition

Jeanne Hamers reported that the new description of the Chemistry Major as passed by the Department did not pass through the College Curriculum Committee, so we will need to address some issues later.

Thanks to Bob McMahon for his Service as Chair

Bassam Shakhashiri thanked Bob for his four years of service as Chair. The Department heartily and enthusiastically agreed.

Business

Overview of the Morgridge Institute for Research

Lead investigator Dave Pagliarini and CEO Brad Schwartz talked to the Department about the Morgridge Institute, which is the private counterpart to the Wisconsin Institute for Discovery (WID).

The Morgridge Institute was founded as private so it was not run by politicians. An independent institute can be more nimble than a State entity. The area of research that has the greatest impact on the University is in Metabolism.

Dave Pagliarini explained the Metabolism program at Morgridge.

Delegation of Authority for Department Committee Business to the Finance Committee for Summer

Bob McMahon asked for a motion delegating any Summer Department Committee business to the Finance Committee. **The motion from Sam Gellman and Gil Nathanson was approved with no negatives.**

With no additional business brought to the Department Committee, the meeting was adjourned after a motion from Ned Sibert and Sam Gellman.

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