Steering Committee Minutes
August 20, 2010

Voting Members: Mihran Tuceryan (President), Bart Ng (Dean of the School of Science), Barry Muhoberac (Chemistry), John McGrew (Psychology), Pierre-Andre Jacinthe (Earth Sciences), Stephen Wassall (Physics), Yao Liang (Computer Information Science), Teri Belecky-Adams (Biology),

Non-Voting Ex-Officio Members: Kathy Marrs (Assoc. Dean), James Murphy (Associate Dean for Research), Jyoti Sarkar (Past President)

1. President Tuceryan called the meeting to order at 1:15 PM.
2. The revised agenda was adopted unanimously.
3. The minutes of April 30, 2010 steering committee meeting were approved unanimously.
4. President Tuceryan presented attendees of the meeting with a copy of subsections 2 from the School of Science bylaws (http://sos.science.iupui.edu/facultycouncil/bylaws.htm) as means of introducing to the new members of the committee the duties and responsibilities of the elected representatives from each of the departments. President Tuceryan read through sections of the bylaw.
5. A meeting time for the regular SOS steering committee was determined. The committee decided that meetings will be held on the second Monday of each month, with the exception of September, at 8:30 AM at a location to be determined.
6. Dean Ng briefed the committee about the following topics
   - There was a discussion about the upcoming raises announced by McRobbie via e-mail to the faculty on August 19, 2010. Stating that his understanding of McRobbie’s e-mail was that the overall increase will be 3%, the Dean asked the departmental representatives to check with the faculty as how the 3% increase should be managed. Should a 3% raise be given across the board? Should there be a lower percentage given across the board and some percentage be held in reserve for “special cases?” What are we going to do with what we have?
   - The Dean would like to close the salary gap between the school of science and the rest of campus. The gap arose in 2005-06, when the school lifted the cap on salaries across the campus. The economic situation of the School of Science at that time though would not allow us to take advantage of the lift in salary cap.
• There will be few new hires this year, primarily due to space constraints in the School of Science. The exceptions will be replacements for retired faculty as well as continuing failed searches from the previous year.

• A faculty incentive proposal will be announced shortly. Right now, faculty in the school of science who get research grants may get an increase of up to 32.5% of their 10 month salary. This will allow faculty that bring in more than one grant to get more than 32.5% back.

• The debt service for the new SELB building is already being paid. Since we are not paying any maintenance costs on the new building, the Dean is using funds that were earmarked for maintenance of the new building on renovations to the old building.

• The Dean has also set aside funds for equipment needed for the new building. The Dean has approximately $1 million is reserve at this point and hopes to have approximately $2 million in reserve by the time the building is finished.

• The new building plans are on schedule and will be built according to a design-bid-build strategy. The site for the new building is likely to be south of LD. The other possible site was between SL and ET buildings, which would leave little room for expansion. Right now 3 phases have been planned. Phase 1 will encompass research labs, teaching labs, faculty offices, and the vivarium. Phase 2 will be an expansion on the initial building which will add classrooms, and office space for more faculty and the Dean’s office. Right now, there are also plans for a Phase 3 which will extend the building to the corner of Blackford and New York. Right now, the buildings are in the process of being designed by the architects to take into account design of research labs, flow of animal movement from the vivarium, student flow and public versus secure areas. The architectural firm of BSA Blackburn, who had also designed the R3 building, has been hired to design the new building. The day we move into the building the vivarium will be 95% capacity, hence an immediate expansion MUST be considered right away. The Dean anticipates that the building plans will be approved by the trustees and construction will begin around late spring or early fall of next year.

• Renovation will be an important aspect of the School of Science as the new building comes online. As some parts of the school move to the new building, space in the old building will have to be renovated to accommodate expansion of those remaining in the old building.

• There will be some negotiation with the new Engineering Dean in regards to the proportional split of Science to Engineering in the new building.
Dean Ng stated that he will not accept any less than 67% of the new building for science.

- A search for the replacement for Assoc Dean Murphy will shortly be under way. Assoc Dean Murphy will be retiring in 6 months. An in-house search through the Indiana University system will be advertised shortly. The hire will be at the Full Professor level. The Dean has set aside approximately 0.5 million in funds so that the new Dean will have a budget with which to effect changes that will help the School of Science. The new Assoc. Dean will be charged with, among other things, increasing research infrastructure for the school.

- Information technology has been restructured. This was a result of the pull-back of student technology funds by President McRobbie. Several salary lines were covered by the funds; hence a new way to pay those salary lines to be paid and the reorganization of IT was a first step to that process.

- The campus is being re-wired to accommodate increases in information technology. The School of Science will be the first building to be re-wired on campus. This process will start in October. The chair of the technology committee, Shiaofen Fang will be asked to make a report to the steering committee mid-year.

7. There will be a discussion of research incentive at the next meeting.

8. Old business
   - P & T representation for lecturers

9. There was no new business.

10. The meeting was adjourned.