SoS Steering Committee Minutes
April 3, 2015

Voting Members present: Michelle Salyers/Psychology & President; Randall Roper/Biology; Barry Muhoberac/Chemistry and Chemical Biology; Mihran Tuceryan/Computer and Information Science; Andy Barth/Earth Sciences; Vitaly Tarasov/Mathematical Sciences; Horia Petrache/Physics; Dennis Devine/Psychology

Non-Voting Members present: Associate Dean Doug Lees; Associate Dean David Skalnik; Associate Dean Kathy Marrs; Associate Dean Jeff Watt; Lin Li/Earth Sciences & Secretary; Bethany Neal-Beliveau/Psychology & Past President

Meeting Guest: Steve Randall/Biology and Financial representative for campus

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
President Salyers called the meeting to order. The agenda was received, and she has two updates to add to the agenda: Peer Review and Administrative Evaluations. There being no other changes/additions, there was a motion to approve the agenda, a second, and the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
President Salyers mentioned that Secretary Lin Li had sent the minutes to the committee members prior to our meeting. She asked for any concerns or changes necessary to the minutes. None were presented; there was a motion, and a second to approve the minutes. The motion carried.

DEAN’S OFFICE UPDATE
President Salyers mentioned Dean Simon Rhodes was not present at the meeting today (he is out of town). Associate Dean Doug Lees gave the committee an update of the faculty searches. There are searches in Chemistry, Physics, Math and Psychology.

NEW BUSINESS
President Salyers announced Steve Randall was our guest at today’s meeting. He is currently the School of Science representative for the IUPUI Budgetary Affairs Committee. President Salyers stated his term will expire, and we will need to find a replacement. He was invited to inform us of the responsibilities of this position and what the position entails.

Steve Randall distributed a handout, confirmed he was appointed by the Dean, and has served for 4-5 years. Other schools on campus have a Finance Subcommittee with their representative as a member. SoS is the only school on campus that appoints their representative. In other schools, the representative is elected. Steve felt it would be beneficial for the School to have a subset of the Steering Committee with 2-3 members, including the School’s budgetary representative. This subcommittee would
communicate with the Dean and Associate Dean for Finance about the Budgetary Affairs activities, and the Deans could provide important information for the subcommittee, too. He continued to explain more regarding his role as the SoS representative:

–Who attends the meetings? Ex-officio officer, Executive Financial officer, Vice Chancellor, Executive Vice Chancellor and a rep from the Research and Planning Committee.

–What do they do? During the spring, the committee is quite involved in the Cluster Budget Hearings for the campus. He attends all of the cluster hearings, and wrote two reports. Additionally, they meet monthly, where smaller topics may be presented for discussion and possibly some impact (privatize parking, legislative plans, Consumption Model, and Library science collection). He explained you could have an impact on what’s going on, but within a larger scale. A discussion followed regarding inputs, composition, and whether we needed a subcommittee. After the discussion, it was decided that President Salyers would wait until May to see if anyone shows an interest to serve as the rep to Budgetary Affairs from the Steering Committee. When the new department representatives for the Steering Committee are chosen by SoS departments (e.g., Math, Physics, and Psychology) (late May), one representative will be chosen to replace Steve Randall.

**OLD BUSINESS**

President Salyers asked if there was any interest in the President Elect and Secretary position. Since there were none, President Salyers will make a pitch for the position at the Spring Assembly meeting, and hopefully trigger some interest.

**Peer Review for Teaching**

President Salyers stated the adhoc committee for Peer Review of Teaching met and received packets back from Pratibha Varma Nelson, and Pratibha and her team took our forms and made a recommendation for us to use. It has been sent to the subcommittee for review, and will then be returned back to the Steering Committee for their review. The Steering Committee will make their recommendations to the Unit Committee regarding the P&T process, and finally will present the Peer Review of Teaching document to the faculty at the Fall Assembly meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS/QUESTIONS**

Brought up for discussion was how faculty felt about the Faculty Annual Reports (FARs). Horia Petrache stated it was bought up at his departmental meeting and most faculty dislike the form (cumbersome, cannot copy and paste, takes a lot of time, etc.) A discussion followed, indicating that the Psychology department received a waiver this year. Michelle will talk to Dean Simon Rhodes and get more information about what Psychology did to acquire a waiver.

**MEETING ADJOURNED**