

# The DIETRICH School of Arts & Sciences Gazette

VOL. 45, NO. 1 SEPTEMBER 13, 2013

## Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences Planning and Budgeting Committee Minutes from the March 4, 2013 Meeting

**ATTENDING:** Dean N. John Cooper (Chair), Senior Associate Dean James Knapp, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies John Twyning, Associate Dean for Graduate Studies Kathleen Blee, Associate Dean of the College of General Studies Cristina Ruggiero, Executive Director for Staff Personnel and Senior Assistant Dean Michele Colvard, Assistant Dean for Business and Finance Barbara Vattimo, Senior Director of Undergraduate Studies Judith McConnaha, Director of Communications Carol Mullen, Professors Daniel Balderston, James Cassing, David Waldeck, and Andrew Weintraub, Staff Representative Karen Lillis, and Student Representatives Julia Bursten and Christopher Myers

**NOT ATTENDING:** Associate Dean for Administration and Planning W. Richard Howe, Professors Nathaniel Rosi and Randall Walsh, and Staff Representatives Mary Beth Conroy and Georgia Spears

1. The Dean reminded everyone that the meetings of the PBC and all information presented in them are confidential, except to the extent published in the minutes. This was accepted by all present.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on February 25, 2013

Dean Cooper presented the minutes of the meeting held on February 25, 2013. Student Representative Christopher Myers moved that the minutes be accepted. Student Representative Julia Bursten seconded the motion, and the minutes were unanimously approved.

3. Dean's Report

The Dean reported that while it is obviously important to pay attention to the possible impact of sequestration on sponsored research budgets, there is not yet any evidence of a significant impact. Sponsored research expenditures are up 10% year-to-date, and while expenditures obviously reflect funds committed by agencies some time ago, expenditures do tend to slow down when individuals have imminent funding concerns.

4. PBC Representatives on the Provost's PBC

Representatives from the Dietrich School PBC were elected to serve in the Provost's Area Planning and Budget Committee. Professors Andrew Weintraub and James Cassing will complete, and Professor David Waldeck will begin, two year terms.

5. Budget Reallocation and Reduction section of Planning Document

The Dean reviewed with the Committee the draft of the reallocation and reduction section of the Planning Document. The section summarizes the ways in which the Dietrich School is simultaneously dealing with reductions in the Educational and General allocation from the University driven by reductions in the State Appropriation to the University and the continuing need to reallocate resources to strengthen our top priorities. Some choices have been made for us by the University, as in the staff reduction through the Voluntary Early Retirement Program (VERP). The School is also limiting senior hiring and will use internal promotions to fill certain endowed chairs. It is still hoped that resources freed from reduced support for certain graduate programs can be reallocated to strengthen our best graduate programs.

Concern was expressed by Committee members about the ongoing negative impacts of VERP and the large effort going into restructuring across the School.

The Committee found the draft of the reallocation and reduction section to be acceptable with a few minor edits.

## 6. Undergraduate Diversity section of Planning Document

Some of the data in the undergraduate diversity section of the Planning Document will need to be updated, but much of the language will remain the same.

## 7. Review of Master Draft of Planning Document

The Dean reviewed with the Committee the master draft of the Planning Document section, noting areas that were edited in response to suggestions of the Committee.

Professor James Cassing moved to accept the Planning Document draft with proposed amendments. Student Representative Christopher Myers seconded, and all accepted.

## 8. Other Business

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:46 p.m.