

OFFICE OF THE DEAN
COLLEGE OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND LIFE SCIENCES
ALL FACULTY MEETING

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH, 2010

2:00 PM

THOMAS M. RYAN AUDITORIUM, 100 CBLS

Faculty and Staff members present: Steven Alm, Kimberly Anderson, Farhad Atash, Jon Boothroyd, Ed Bozzi, Paul Cohen, Tracey Dalton, Chandu Dondeti, Leonard Gerber, Howard Ginsberg, Art Gold, Marian Goldsmith, William Gordon, William Green, Geoffrey Greene, Rudi Hempe, Darlene Jones, Larry Juda, Albert Kausch, Barbara Klitz, Christopher Lane, David Laux, Seth Macinko, Anthony Mallilo, Bruce Marti, Lenore Martin, Thomas Mather, Fred Meyerson, Marcia Morreira, David Nelson, Kimberly Nelson, Joanna Norris, James Opaluch, Gregory Paquette, Martha Patnood, Katherine Petersson, Richard Pollnac, Michael Rice, Cathy Roheim, Becky Sartini, Richard Sheridan, Angelo Simeoni, Jay Sperry, Mark Stolt, Robert Thompson, Emi Uchida, Hiro Uchida, Jane Vieira, Jacqueline Webb, Elissia Wahl, Yeqiao Wang, Cheryl Wilga. A quorum was present.

MINUTES

1. **Dean's Welcome (*Dean N. Fey-Yensan*)**

Dean Fey-Yensan opened the meeting and announced that the Department of Marine Affairs will be staying in the college, which was met with applause. Dean Fey-Yensan introduced Vice President for Administration and Finance, Robert Weygand.

2. **Plans for the fourth floor of CBLS (*VP for Administration and Finance, Robert Weygand*)**

Vice President Bob Weygand took the floor and discussed the plans for completion of CBLS, and other parts of campus. VP Weygand announced that he will be going around campus this Spring and Fall to meet with the colleges to listen to their concerns regarding the administration and finance side of how we do business. VP Weygand expressed interest in learning from the colleges.

VP Weygand gave an overview of the history of the north district of campus. The vision is to configure the North District as a health and life sciences quad. The campus master plan outlines this plan. CBLS was originally planned as a \$60M building; \$50M financed by the bond, with the additional \$10M through fundraising. It turned out to be a \$67M building, with rapidly rising construction costs. The 4th floor was deliberately shelled for completion at a later date. A RI State appropriation came through so we can finish the fourth floor, and VP Weygand noted that this is all state money, not tuition and fee

money. The space will look very similar to the 2nd and 3rd research floors (labs and offices) and we will have 27 administrative office spaces on the teaching wing. Construction will start in late summer and will be completed within 12-14 months. VP Weygand also noted that we need to turn Ranger Hall over to the new School of Communications, which will necessitate the reconfiguration of Woodward Hall.

The quad that will be between CBLS and the new Pharmacy building will be the anchor of the north district and both buildings will have LEED silver designation. The new Pharmacy project will be done in January 2012. The Pharmacy project is under budget right now; taking advantage of a 15-18% reduction in construction costs.

3. URI's Dean of Students (*Dr. Jason Pina*)

Dean Fey-Yensan introduced URI's new Dean of Students, Dr. Jason Pina, who talked about student affairs at URI. Under the new Dean's purview are Disability Services, GLBT, the Multicultural Center, the Women's Center, the Counseling Center and Commuter Housing, just to name a few. Dr. Pina has been the Dean of Students for the past four and a half months.

Dr. Pina noted that although he is the dean of all students, he does not have much contact with our graduate student population, and is looking for ways to better serve those students.

A large part of Dr. Pina's job is to handle academic integrity and student disciplinary cases. If a situation concerns a CELS student, Dr. Pina works closely with Kim Anderson. Dr. Pina also helps students and their families navigate higher education. He noted that we only graduate 1/2 of our students. Sometimes we have cases of students who are on drugs, we need to get them treatment and help see them through to graduation.

Dr. Pina shared that his father was one of the first black basketball and track athletes on campus, and that in 1950, only one fraternity gave him a place to stay. Dr. Pina was the second person in his family to go to college. He believes that higher education is a privilege, and he intends to partner with faculty and staff to ensure that our students maximize their time here.

Dr. Pina asked, how many cases of academic dishonesty do you think the Dean of Students' office handled last year? URI only had 33 cases. First time offenders get a warning letter from the Office of the Dean of Students. We must ask ourselves, how can we prevent the trickle down effect of what can happen to these students?

M. Goldsmith asked about procedure. Should we first report cases of academic dishonesty to the college or to the Dean of Students' office? Dr. Pina asked that faculty refer to the University Manual, and further advised that both reporting mechanisms should happen simultaneously. He also advised to keep records of the students that you reprimand, especially when it comes to students with substance abuse issues.

J. Webb noted that it would be helpful periodically send out reminders of the procedure and asked that we do this through the Dean's Office of the college.

F. Meyerson asked what would you expect to be an average number of academic dishonesty cases for a university of our size? Also, how would you revamp the procedure?

Kim Anderson noted that the CELS Student Affairs Office is putting together an advising manual that will be made available to CELS faculty.

M. Goldsmith also inquired about the proper recourse for a student who has an issue with a faculty member. Dr. Pina advised to refer the student to Kim Anderson and to also inform the Department Chair of the situation.

Dr. Jason Pina, Dean of Students, can be found in the Memorial Union and can be reached at: jbpina@uri.edu or 4-2101.

4. Curriculum Report (Dr. Lenore Martin, Chair, CELS Curriculum Committee)

Prof. Lenore Martin gave faculty an overview of the curriculum actions that have taken place this past semester. Her report is attached to the end of these minutes. On the curriculum front, it has been an unusually busy semester. We are still working on getting the curriculum matters up on the intranet for all CELS faculty to access. Prof. Martin noted that when a course goes from an X- course to full course, you have to submit a new course form. All new courses are initiated by the faculty; without faculty proposing changes, there would be no action on the curriculum.

Prof. David Laux also serves the college as an expert on curricular matters. Some of our courses are old and out-of date. We need to think about what could be different. The BES degree proposal was not turned down, but it was sent back to the college to flesh out the curriculum. We cannot submit an empty shell. We need to get together in these subject areas. In N. Howlett's committee, they came up with some core courses, but these did not go forward. Have to get it tough the grad committee by the 9th or it will have to wait until next year. This interdisciplinary degree program is a great new program, but we just don't have to courses in place to fill it. All of our bachelor's degree programs went through, it's just the BES program that we hit the glitch. The faculty must decide what a student has to do to get this degree. Departments need to go through their undergrad curricula to find efficiencies and improve the quality of the courses we deliver.

Dr. Martin noted that there is a section on the FacSen website that outlines how to create a successful course proposal.

Dr. D. Nelson made a motion to accept the curricular changes Dr. Martin presented; Dr. M. Goldsmith seconded.

Dr. D. Laux also noted that the BES groups need to start meeting again. Our next sets of challenges are the catalog changes, which are slated for Fall 2010 implementation. Any further changes you wish to put forth have to be done quickly if you want it in the catalog this year.

Dr. D. Nelson noted that there are some basic questions that need to be answered before the groups are going to start meeting again. N. Fey-Yensan noted that this is a process that needs to be owned by the faculty and noted that she is happy to talk to the faculty more about this.

It was suggested that we continue the discussion regarding faculty voting rights at the next meeting of Department Chairs.

J. Webb suggested that we talk to colleagues at other institutions that have already been through this. Why reinvent the wheel?

5. CELS Business (*Dean N. Fey-Yensan, Associate Dean Rick Rhodes*)

a.) New Initiatives

Dean Fey-Yensan briefed the faculty on the new Marine-Ocean-Coastal Task Force. This group's intent is to raise the profile marine programs on campus.

Dean Fey-Yensan informed the faculty about the Provost's Task Forces related to the Academic Plan (2010-2015) and encouraged faculty to look at the links on the Provost's website.

We have also established a CELS Diversity and Equity Committee; the chair of this group is Marcia Morreira. The challenge is to take a close look at what we are doing to attract and retain a more diverse, faculty and student body, internationalize, and to be creative regarding diversity initiatives. We will be the first college responsible for delivering one full day of science-based diversity week programming. Some themes the group has discussed are: women in science, outreach related to science, and our initiative with the Paul Cuffee School.

The TA Allocation Committee and Workload Planning Committee have been meeting. We have established a Grad Student Advisory Board and have been meeting with all of CELS' Grad Program Directors. Raising the profile of graduate education in CELS is a main focus right now.

b.) Ongoing Initiatives

Assoc. Dean Rhodes announced that 13 proposals were submitted to this round of the CELS CARES funding cycle. All have gone through a full review of internal and external panelists, who have recommended funding seven proposals at a total of \$500K. We are now in the budget checking process and notice of awards should be made within the next few weeks.

Assoc. Dean Rhodes reported that to-date (FY 2010), CELS faculty have received \$12.5M in external grant support. If our projections play out, we should have a research take of about \$25M. Last year, we were at \$22M. We are on a pace to set a new record for college, and this is a direct reflection of the tremendous work of the faculty of the college.

Associate Dean Rhodes reported that unfortunately, NIST was not funded. Associate Dean Rhodes asked that if you get a notice of award, please send a note to the Dean's Office, as we are frequently the last to hear of research awards. Recent successes include: B. Jenkins (NSF award), R. Brown (SARE award), K. Petersson (SARE award). Two of these faculty members came to us through the Advance program, and two of the three are junior faculty members. Congratulations!

Assoc. Dean Rhodes also announced that we have also put all of our buildings through an energy audit. Kevin Silveira, a CELS Energy Fellow, will be coming through all of CELS buildings. Kevin has also volunteered to visit individual faculty offices to make simple changes that will have a big collective impact on our energy consumption.

6. Open Forum

There were no additional agenda items.

The meeting adjourned at 3:48 pm.

2009-2010 CELS-CC Report #3

*Members – 2009-2010 Chair Lenore Martin, CMB;
Len Gerber, FSN/NFS; Peter Paton, NRS; Jim Opaluch,
ENRE; Rob Thompson, MAF.; Alison Roberts BIO;
David Fastovsky, GEO; Anthony Mallilo, FAVS; Richard
Sheridan, LAR; Larry Englander, PLS;
Nancy Fey-Yensan and David Laux, Dean's Off. (ex officio).*

New Courses Approved

AFS132°	Animal Agriculture, Food Policy, and Society	3 credits
BCH-MIC435*	Introduction to the Biology and Genetics of Cancer	3 credits
EVS500X	Environmental Science & Management Seminar	1 credit
EVS-NRS-EEC109X	Introduction to Sustainable Energy	3 credits
LAR301	Credit Change 2->4	
MIC/BPS450/550*	Practical Tools for Molecular Sequence Analysis	3 credits
NFS210	Applied General Nutrition	4 credits
NRS480	Senior Colloquium	1-> 2 credits
NFS495	Applied Nutrition Practicum	3 credits

°General Education Course

***also approved by Graduate council for graduate credit**

Other Approved Changes:

- MAF-MA-PhD
- Interdisciplinary BES-MS-PhD committee proposal Approved by BIO, CMB, FAVS, NFS,
- ENRE-BS
- GEO-BS
- MAF-BS
- PLS-EHTM-BS
- LAR-BLA
- BIO-BS
- MBIO-BS
- CMB-CLS-BS
- CMB-MIC-BS
- NFS-MS Nutrition
- NFS-BS
- NRS-ESM-BS
- NRS-WCB-BS
- CMB-CLS name change to Medical Laboratory Sciences-MLS
- LAR-CPLA closed

Minor Changes:

- AVS343 Minor change
- BIO445 Prereq-Desc change and not for grad credit
- BIO445 descript-prereq
- BIO467 descript-prereq
- BIO545 descript-prereq
- EEC423 Prereq change
- GEO204 Title Change
- GEG511 to GEG488 code change
- LAR_CPL_MAF434 delist MAF
- NFS236 deleted
- NFS337, 443 credits from 3-4
- NFS223, 480, 360, 375, 440, 458, 491, prereq change
- NFS452 deleted
- NFS492 deleted
- NFS585 Internship in Specialty Dietetic Practice deleted
- NFS592 Research Projects deleted
- NFS692 Research in Nutrition and Food Sciences deleted
- NFS551 Prereq Change
- NFS552 Prereq Change
- NFS591 Credit Change 3->4
- NFS691 Credit Change 3->4
- NRS401-501 Credit Change 3->4
- NRS445-545 Credit Change 3->4