ACADEMIC PLANNING COUNCIL

November 27, 2017

3:00 p.m. Altgeld 315

Minutes

Present: Abdel-Motaleb, Blazey, Chitwood, Daniel, Douglass, Falkoff, Gordon, Hunt, Isabel, McCord, Mini, Mogren, Reynolds, Siblik, Torres, Wilkens, and Winkler

Guests: Nicholas Karonis - Chair Department of Computer Science and Brian Sandberg - Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Affairs, Sarah Leis – Decision, Support, & Analysis

Meeting called to order at 3:03 p.m.

1. Announcements
   - No announcements

2. Approval of minutes from November 6, 2017
   - Motion made by Ibrahim Abdel-Motaleb
   - Seconded by Elizabeth Wilkins
   - Motion approved

3. Discussion for approval of the Ph.D. in Computer Science: Representatives: Nicholas Karonis and Brian Sandberg
   - Department’s curriculum has evolved into contemporary computer science.
   - The strategy is to continue following the mission but also leverage research.
   - Looking for funding from external agencies.
   - The department showed the data to demonstrate the demand for a Ph.D. in Computer Science in Illinois.
   - As we look at future careers and the need for data scientists, how will the Ph.D. in Computer Science address that?
     - Data science is recognized by the department as one of the most important parts of the curriculum.
Ph.D. will address the increases in the data science field.
Will there be available resources to upscale the Ph.D. but also address the need of an inter-disciplinary Data Science Ph.D.?
  - We aren’t staffing separately for the Ph.D.
Data science is essentially an initiative right now

- What is the distinctive trait of this degree program and how will we align ourselves to distinguish ourselves from competitors in Illinois?
  - Offer a Ph.D. in high performance computing, only one other school that does this, UIUC.
  - Does it help that our Computer Science Program will be housed in CLAS whereas UIUC and UIC theirs in Engineering?
    - Are they more software focused or engineering focused?
  - Like NIU the IBHE cares about the benefit to the student and we must make that argument.

- Motion made to approve the Ph.D. in Computer Science
  - Motion made by Ibrahim Abdel-Motaleb
  - Seconded by Geoffrey Gordon
  - Motion approved

4. Update on EBC from Chris McCord

Budget Process

- We are in a period of sustained uncertainty which is forcing changes in many of our operations and processes.
- We have a budget for current Fiscal Year but can’t guarantee that we will have one for next year.
- We must keep an eye on the need to be mission focused.
  - Budget processes need to be directed towards that.
- We have evolved from the guiding principles to a budget responsibility.
- Involvement of Two Shared Governance Committees
  - Resource Space and Budget
  - Academic Planning Council
- Some of the actions EBC has been involved in
  - Unfunded Requirements (UFR’s)
    - Contractual obligations that have not been permanently funded
    - Investment opportunities
    - Enhancements that require new funding
  - Annual Budget Development
    - Redesigning the annual development process
    - Improving fiscal management
- The Board of Trustees has ultimate budget power at the university
Budget Update

- Importance of maintaining cash on hand so that we can:
  - Make payroll
  - Compensate for slow or no state appropriations
  - Accommodate delays in State reimbursement after expense are incurred
  - Pay for unexpected expenses
- Our goal is to always have two months of cash on hand.
- Approximately $11 M in budget reductions.
- Approximately $7 M to be met out of cash on hand.


- Report for 2016-2017 programs reviewed by the APC
- All in good standing, which means they programs are good for 8 years unless otherwise noted as aligned with accreditation.
- Program Prioritization advised that some centers should be transformed
  The Division of RIPS is creating a process for this for the research centers

6. Discussion of subcommittee report:

Jeanne Isabel gave an overview of the Subcommittee B report

- **B.S. in Technology**
  - Increased enrollments from transfer students and internal transfers from the engineering programs
  - Housed in Still Gym
    - Having issues with space
      - Classrooms aren’t big enough
  - Faculty members and staff provide strong support for students in the program, as evidenced by the student organization and student internship opportunities
  - Technology must evolve with the industry
  - Assessment plan has been recognized as excellent by accreditor
  - Recommendations:
    - Suggestion was made to advertise on the website that the program provides high number of graduates for employers in Illinois
    - The challenge is the number of students in an online course
    - Numbers can get as high as 40. Smaller classes would be preferred

- **M.S. in Industrial Management**
  - Faculty members provide strong support for students in the program.
  - Industry support through scholarships given when internship positions become available.
  - High focus on management end because the students already have the technology background.
  - Differential tuition has provided funding for additional advising support.
  - Recommendations:
 Goal is to add more online courses to help recruit more students.
 Faculty spends a good amount of time on advising
  ● The college is planning to set up a central advising office to provide faculty with more time for research activities.

7. Other business
  ● No other business

Meeting adjourned at 4:44 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,
Mickey Rodriguez and Crystal Doyle