College of Science and Engineering Policy, Planning, and Budget Council (PPBC) Minutes

October 26, 2023

Attendees: Dietmar Schwarz (Biology), Bob Mitchell (Geology), Amr Radwan (Engineering & Design), Brian Hutchinson (Computer Science), Janelle Leger (Dean of CSE), Takele Seda (Physics & Astronomy), Amy Anderson (Mathematics), Jackie Caplan-Auerbach (Associate Dean of CSE), Tim Kowalczyk (AMSEC)

Absent: Chemistry representative (transitioning from Ying Bao to Jay McCarty), SMATE representative (no currently appointed representative)

1. Emily Borda (Director of SMATE) presented a draft of a policy, procedures, and timeline for review of faculty with joint appointments by the tenured faculty in units other than the home unit (“secondary” units) with which the faculty member is affiliated.
   1. Reviewing faculty in the secondary unit would conduct expedited review of the candidate dossier focused on contributions to the secondary unit.
   2. Reviewing faculty in the home and secondary units can begin review at the same time, and the home department’s chair announces to the home department faculty when the secondary unit’s letter is added to the dossier.
   3. Faculty with appointments in both the home and secondary unit do not participate in the secondary unit’s evaluation.
   4. Councilors discussed how realistic the proposed 9-day timeline is for secondary unit faculty and secondary unit chair/director.
   5. Councilors discussed recent changes to the CBA restricting consultation about candidates’ dossiers among the voting faculty and whether these changes have implications for the appropriateness of allowing the secondary unit’s letter to influence voting by the home unit faculty. An alternative model would be for the secondary unit’s letter to factor into the chair’s recommendation and above, but not be included in the dossier at the home department faculty review stage.
   6. Councilors considered bringing this draft procedure to the faculty union for preliminary consultation but decided it was not necessary at this time.
   7. Councilors voted unanimously (7 yea, 0 nay, 0 abstentions) to refer the draft policy to departments for review. PPBC will revisit the matter at its next meeting.
2. Strategic Planning Task Force nominations
   1. Councilors discussed the qualifications of the identified nominees and reflected on any potential gaps in representation.
   2. The consensus among councilors is that the nominees are broadly representative of the CSE community and are well-suited to the tasks of thoughtfully soliciting feedback and hearing all voices and perspectives in the Strategic Planning process.
   3. Councilors voted to approve all candidates unanimously (7 yea, 0 nay, 0 abstentions).
3. Appointments to university-level committee vacancies
   1. Councilors voted unanimously (7 yea, 0 nay, 0 abstentions) to fill the following university-level vacancies as indicated:
      1. Academic Fee Committee: Serge Smirnov, Chemistry
      2. Outreach and Continuing Education Committee: Tarek Idriss, Computer Science
      3. Faculty Senate (2): Mark Peyron, Engineering & Design; Jeffrey Meier, Mathematics
   2. For a vacancy on the RSP Summer Research Grant Committee, Councilors returned to this year’s list of self-nominations for RCA sub-committees; prioritized nominees into a top-three list according to criteria discussed at the October 12 meeting; and voted unanimously (7 yea, 0 nay, 0 abstentions) for the PPBC chair to offer this vacancy to the highest-priority nominee, moving to the next nominee on the prioritized list if the highest-ranked nominee declines the offer.
4. Review of previous minutes: Councilors unanimously approved the minutes of the October 12, 2023 meeting of the PPBC, subject to the striking of budget discussion details from Dean Leger’s budget update. The rationale for striking the budget discussion details that provenance of official public-facing discussion of the budget should lie with the Dean.
5. Councilors agreed to meet next week to continue working through PPBC’s backlog of pending items.