Present: John Gilbertson (chair), Andy Klein, Takele Seda, Arpad Benyi, Jim Hearne, Thanh Le, Dietmar Schwartz, David Rider, Brady Foreman, Kris Aguayo (Student Senator), Elias Bashir (Student Senator), Jackie Caplan-Auerbach (Associate Dean of CSE), Brad Johnson (Dean of CSE)

Minutes from the 12/12/2019 meeting were approved.

The Council reviewed the decision package from Engineering & Design which seeks to increase the number of graduates from the Manufacturing and Plastics & Composites programs by 50% each. The Council asked numerous questions, and provided specific feedback to the Engineering & Design Rep (Klein).

The Council returned to discussion of the decision package from AMSEC which had been discussed in the last PPBC meeting. The Council asked numerous questions, and provided specific feedback to the AMSEC Rep (Rider).

Next, the Council returned to discussion of the decision package from Geology which had been discussed in the last PPBC meeting. The Council asked numerous questions, primarily focused around graduate TA’s, and provided specific feedback to the Geology Rep (Foreman). In addition, it was pointed out that the claims around a commitment to equity and inclusion do not use inclusive language, particularly in some of the figures.

Brad Johnson announced that new criteria for emergent proposal process will be coming out soon, and will need to be adjusted before mid-March.

Next, the Council returned to discussion of the emergent proposal that seeks to increase graduate TA stipends. There were three suggestions to remove the two options (i.e., just propose one), include more data to motivate the proposal (e.g., how many students take part-time jobs, etc), and include a comparison with peer institutions, and institutions to where we lose students.

Finally, the Council discussed the emergent proposal from Industrial Design (within Engineering & Design), the Biology minor cap request, and the Physics strategic initiative. Feedback was provided by the Council to the reps from each of these departments.

Minutes submitted by Andy Klein.