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.

- o Ph.D. will address the increases in the data science field.
- o 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.
- o 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?
  - o Offer a Ph.D. in high performance computing, only one other school that does this, UIUC.
  - o 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?
  - o 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
  - o Motion made by Ibrahim Abdel-Motaleb
  - o Seconded by Geoffrey Gordon
  - o 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.
  - o 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
  - o Resource Space and Budget
  - o Academic Planning Council
- Some of the actions EBC has been involved in
  - o Unfunded Requirements (UFR's)
    - ▪ Contractual obligations that have not been permanently funded
    - ▪ Investment opportunities
    - ▪ Enhancements that require new funding
  - o 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.

5. **Review of Program Review Summary Report for 2016-2017 - Carolinda Douglass**

- 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