SOS Steering Committee Minutes  
Thursday, October 26, 2017 (12:00-1:30PM)  
Biology Conference Room SL 306

Present: Randall Roper (President), Lei Li (Secretary), Ben Boukai (Math), Rob Minto (Chemistry and Chemical Biology), Lin Li (Earth Sciences), Chris Lapish (Psychology), Jason Meyer (Biology), Snehasis Mukhopadhyay (Computer and Information Science), Gautam Vemuri (Physics), Simon Rhodes (Deans office), Doug Lees (Deans office), David Skalnik (Deans office), Jane Williams (Deans office)

Excused: Pierre Jacinthe (Earth Sciences), Yogesh Joglekar (Immediate past President)

1. Approval of agenda  
Meeting was called to order at 12:04 and agenda was approved

2. Approval of minutes (minutes approved from September 2017)

3. Comments by Dean Rhodes

a). The outstanding innovative work of Science faculty in education and research has been recognized by some very prestigious awards this year:
   - Dr. Alexander Its was awarded the IU President’s Medal;
   - Dr. Kathy Licht was elected a Fellow of the Geological Society of America;
   - Dr. Jeff Ou was elected a Fellow of the American Physical Society and a Fellow of the Optical Society;
   - Dr. Pratibha Varma-Nelson was elected a Fellow of the American Chemical Society and she will also receive the prestigious George C. Pimentel Award in Chemical Education in 2018.
   Congratulations to these faculty!

b). Philanthropy Report – the campaign ends in Dec 2019
   - Philanthropy $3,377,235  84.43% of $4M goal
   - NGG (nongovernment grants) $6,303,347  157.58% of $4M goal
   - Total Raised $9,680,582  121.01%
   - Upcoming $1.425m gifts in pipeline (FYI) which we will plan to close before 12/31 that will put our philanthropy dollars over goal: $4.8m = 120%
   - Need New Goals!

c). Road safety – Science student struck by a school bus – numerous near misses – working hard with city to improve safety (lower speed limit etc..) – concrete blockades to be made to lower the speed – more clear signage to
be put on streets – IUPUI police trying to slow people down – Blackford street will be two-way soon

d) Lost Debbie Allard – she worked at home in the last a few years – many of us know her for many decades – she will be missed

e) DACA students – DACA students are currently having a tough time – be nice to DACA students if you have them in your class

4. Reports from Associate Deans

a. Jane Williams
Students Principles of Undergraduate Learning (PULs) skill development review – review process begun – be meaningful to students - three groups reviewed: psychology, K101 biology, and finite – To see how it goes on the campus level – assessment and validation take time – some classes were reviewed by three external bodies already – processes can be complicated

b. Dave Skalnik
First quarter Research expenditure up 21% – Research in the school is strong – ICR up three fold comparing with last year – great shape for the first half this year

c. Doug Lees (see below)

5. Current business:

a. Fall fiscal analysis (by Doug Lees)

1) Summary on Tuition and Fee Income
- We have generated (in SSII and fall tuition and fee income) $29.9M with $28.3M to go. Spring semesters are typically 87% the size of fall semesters & SSII > SSII.
- Lab fees and program fees are running behind by a small amount. The former should bounce back in spring due to students who were displaced from CHEM C105/125 and BIOL K101 by ALEKS (Assessment and LEarning in Knowledge Spaces) being eligible in the spring - This should help spring overall enrollment as well.
- We have used $1.18M of our $2.1M fee waivers for MSEP. It may cost more here but is more than made up for on the income side.
- Overall, we are short of budget $74,052 in student tuition and fee income. This represents a variance of 0.1%!

2) The Expenditure Side of the Budget
- Academic salaries project down $678K (4.1%) – resignations, LOAs, and set-asides for new hires in 2018.
- Part-time instruction projects up $173K
- Professional and biweekly salaries project down $66K
- FB project down $230K
- Student academic appointments project up $586K (RIF dollars balance this out)
- Overall (the above items plus others) our compensation costs project down $199K

3) Other Items and Summary
- Establish a faculty/marketing committee to increase our out-of-state enrollments (income enhancement)
- Continue to emphasize student recruitment and retention (income enhancement)
- Continue to (temporarily) limit new and replacement faculty searches (cost reduction)
- Continue conversations with campus on more equitable taxation structures, especially with regard to the CRF, ESI & SFR taxes ($5,292,602)
- Seek a new look at state appropriation distribution on campus (revenue enhancement)

-We still have to deal with a ~ $3.8 million budget deficient

- ALEKS academic replacement may be a good tool – ALEKS however is unsupervised and can be an issue – students may take multiple times – Ethical vs financial dilemma when allowing student access to our courses.

b. Diversity in School and beyond: – ensure the Steering committee is inclusive – review the policy – each dept has its own bylaws – diversity should be shown in every committee such as unit committee (another powerful committee) – senior faculty has been strongly encouraged to serve – it is difficult to initiate procedure changes – dept advised to keep diversity in mind when electing committee members – invite Leslie to the meeting or faculty assembly – committees should faithfully represent the structure of faculty – education is strongly encouraged to raise the awareness of this matter – other things such as rank also matter (unfair for an assistant prof on a committee) – diversity is not just male vs female – discussion to be continued next meeting with school-wide diversity data

c. School website

d. Safety for our students: A woman murdered in canal apartment – a few our students are living in the apartment – police escort is available if wanted

e. To change SOS bylaws – Faculty needed to provide practical ideas on what to do when proposing to change the SOS bylaws – Faith needed to trust colleagues in the Steering committee to make sound decisions and do the job correctly – May not be feasible to change bylaws this year – May not be correct if we change bylaws based on one faculty’s opinion

f. Professor of teaching – John Watson in faculty affair committee – add the third line in lecturer rank with a new title – the title of “professor” is meaningful – lecturer qualification requires master degree – clinical professor has been used and may be a reference for the third level of lecturers – SOS the biggest school with # of lecturers on campus - decision may be influenced by that on
Bloomington campus – Bloomington may have changed position, thus a non-issue – McRobbie IU address specifically listed a category of teaching professors – SOS has mixed feelings – some lecturers do not plan to advance to senior lecturers – the process may potentially destabilize the current structure – the title change is for their own professional satisfaction – clinical rank is general true but not true in science – usage of word is therefore carefully applied – McRobbie’s comments appear to suggest that it will be an IU-wide policy

6. New business
   Date for fall faculty assembly

7. Next meeting
   a. Thursday November 30, 2017, 12:00-1:30 pm, SL 306

8. Adjourn
   The meeting adjourned at 1:42pm.