In Attendance: Dean N. John Cooper (Chair); Associate Deans Patricia Beeson and James F. Knapp; Professors Joseph Alter, Barry Ames, John Beverley, Nancy Condee, and Rami Melhem; Mr. Richard Clarke and Ms. Tiffany Turner

Not Attending: Associate Dean Steven Husted; Assistant Dean Michelle L. Amato; Professors Joseph Adjaye, Daniel Berkowitz, Carson Chow, Linda Jen-Jacobson, Delanie Jenkins, Stephen Meriney, and Franklin Toker

1. Minutes of the A&S Council Meeting Held on November 7, 2003

Dean Cooper requested that members review the minutes of the previous meeting. It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the meeting of A&S Council held on November 7, 2003, be approved. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

2. Dean's Report

Dean Cooper made the following announcements:

a. On November 21, 2003, Kirk Savage, Associate Professor in the Department of History of Art and Architecture, was quoted in The New York Times regarding the construction of a September 11, 2001, memorial at Ground Zero in New York City. In the days following the announcement of the design finalists for the memorial, there was much discussion among New Yorkers as to what they believed the purpose of the memorial should be and what the experience of visiting should be like. Savage, who has traced the evolution of therapeutic memorials—those that celebrate victims as opposed to heroes—explained that the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., marked a turning point in American history. The purpose of monuments shifted in the second half of the 20th century from honoring heroic sacrifice to encouraging the healing process. Savage went on to say, “In the end, there has to be a collective meaning to this event [the September 11 terrorist attacks] that justifies their memorialization.”

b. The YWCA of Greater Pittsburgh Center for Race Relations recently selected Nathan Davis, director of Jazz Studies in Pitt’s Department of Music, to receive a 2003 Racial Justice Award. The award, presented in a ceremony on November 13, 2003, at Pittsburgh’s Grand Hall at the Priory, recognizes Davis’ accomplishments and significant involvement in the struggle to eliminate racism.

3. Election of Faculty Grants Committee

Dean Cooper outlined the purpose of the Faculty Grants Committee, and explained that these are summer grants for faculty research. The committee has a total membership of 10, made up of five Humanities representatives, two Natural Sciences representatives, and three representatives from the Social Sciences. Membership on this committee is heavily weighted towards the Humanities because that is where these grants are traditionally most helpful. Terms of service for committee members are three years. There are presently two vacancies for Natural Sciences representatives and one vacancy for a Humanities representative. One of the continuing Humanities representatives will be on leave during the next year,
but it is the responsibility of the Chairperson of the Committee to nominate a replacement for that person for the year. There are three continuing members from Social Sciences; since there are no vacancies in that division, it is not necessary to elect any social Sciences representatives. Ballot papers were distributed to the members of the A&S Council, and Dean Cooper requested that the members present vote for two Natural Sciences representatives and one Humanities representative for the next year. Following review of the ballots, Dean Cooper announced that the following people were duly elected as representatives to the Faculty Grants Committee:

Humanities: Elizabeth Monasterios (Hispanic Languages & Literatures)

Natural Sciences: Kay M. Brummond (Chemistry) and William Harbert (Geology & Planetary Science)

4. Report from A&S Undergraduate Council

Associate Dean Patricia Beeson distributed copies of the minutes of the A&S Undergraduate Council meeting held on November 14, 2003, and pointed out that 12 new courses had been approved by the Council. Minors were approved in Chemistry and in Chinese Culture, Film, Literature and Theatre. A course in Deaf Culture was added to the list of required courses for the American Sign Language Certificate. Three courses were approved for General Education Requirements. Associate Dean Beeson pointed out that proposals for new courses are reviewed before they are presented to A&S Undergraduate Council, so that there is opportunity for advance discussion with the faculty members. Some proposals are withdrawn before they get to Council, and very few proposals are not approved by Council. There was some discussion regarding the requirements for a minor, and the process of introducing new courses.

Associate Dean Beeson said that new student applications have increased in relation to those of competitive institutions, and distributed copies of a chart illustrating this comparative data. It was noted that several factors had contributed to this success, including physical changes to make the campus more attractive to students, as well as the marketing strategies capitalizing on the research strength of the University and the “City is our Campus” approach.

As the Dean was called from the meeting for an important telephone call, Vice Chair James F. Knapp assumed the position of Chair for the rest of the meeting.

It was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved that Associate Dean Beeson’s report be accepted.

5. Report from A&S Graduate Council

In the absence of Associate Dean Steven Husted, Associate Dean James F. Knapp presented the following report, which was supplemented by explanatory comments from Professor Rami Melhem:

a. The A&S Graduate Council met on November 21. The chief agenda item was a proposal from the Department of Computer Science to establish a graduate program with the School of Engineering in computer engineering. Professor Melhem presented the proposal to the Council and answered questions. The program would be modeled similarly to the recently created Biophysics program; it is a natural extension of a very popular and successful undergraduate program run by the two schools. The program would be administered by a core faculty group from the two schools. Students would be admitted into the program, take a series of required courses, then move into labs. Initial registration of the students would depend on which school provides support out of existing TA lines. In later years, support would move to the school where the student’s principal advisor is resident. Operationally, what the department proposes to create is a new major, within its existing graduate program, in computer engineering. As proposed, existing lines of support would be sufficient to support the A&S students until they move into labs and are supported by soft money. The A&S Graduate Council reviewed the proposal and passed it unanimously.

b. On a separate note, in its November 18 meeting, the University Council on Graduate Study unanimously approved the proposal for the new joint Biophysics program and sent it on to the Provost.

A motion to accept Associate Dean Husted’s report was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

6. Other Business

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.
Attending: Dean N. John Cooper (Chair); Associate Deans Patricia Beeson, Steven Husted, and James F. Knapp; Assistant Dean Barbara L. Vattimo; Professors Carson Chow, Nicole Constable, Stuart Hastings, Evelyn Rawski, and Laura Ruetsche; Ms. Phyllis Deasy, Ms. Kristen Flanagan, Mr. Jason Morris, and Ms. Dorothy Shallenberger

Not Attending: Associate Dean W. Richard Howe, Assistant Dean Michelle L. Amato, Professor Delanie Jenkins, Ms. Patricia Henry, and Mr. Jamie Tarpley

1. Minutes of the Meeting Held on October 10, 2003

Dean Cooper welcomed everyone and introduced new members. The minutes of the meeting held on October 10, 2003, were reviewed. It was moved and seconded that these minutes be approved. Motion was carried.

2. Dean’s Announcements

a. Dean Cooper announced two sad events:

i. Felice A. Kappel, one of our top Arts and Sciences administrators, died October 13, 2003, in an automobile accident. She was the departmental administrator in Anthropology. Felice was to serve as the social science staff representative for the PBC. We are grateful that Phyllis Deasy, graduate secretary in Anthropology, has agreed to serve Felice’s term.

ii. Professor Emeritus Theodore O. Windt, a preeminent scholar of the American presidency who developed the first presidential rhetoric undergraduate courses in the country at Pitt more than 30 years ago, also died on October 13. Ted was a Professor of political rhetoric and former chair of Pitt’s Department of Communication.

b. On a happier note, on October 30, The New York Times reported that Seymour Drescher, Pitt professor of history and sociology, had won the Frederick Douglass Book Prize. The prize is given annually and recognizes the best non-fiction book on slavery, resistance, or abolition. Drescher’s book, The Mighty Experiment: Free Labor Versus Slavery in British Emancipation (Oxford University Press), explores the British movement to end slavery. Drescher will be presented with the $20,000 prize at the Yale Club in New York City on February 26, 2004. The Douglass Awards are given by the Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition in the Yale Center for International and Area Studies.

c. Adolf Grünbaum, Andrew Mellon Professor of Philosophy of Science, Research Professor of Psychiatry, and Chairman of the Center for Philosophy of Science, has been elected 2004-2005 president of the Division of Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science. DLMP’s is one of two divisions of the International Union of History and Philosophy of Science (IUHPS), the world’s umbrella organization of national associations and societies in the philosophy of science and in the history of science.

d. Regarding the budget, Dean Cooper announced that the University Trustees had adopted the University budget in late October on the assumption that the Commonwealth appropriation would be reduced by 5 percent. The Commonwealth fiscal year began on July 1. Most of the preferred items had been passed, with the notable exception of secondary school funding, which meant that the fiscal uncertainty facing universities is shared by the secondary schools across Pennsylvania. Dean Cooper said that department chairs would be working on salary recommendations that week, and that salary increases would be in December checks, retroactive to July 1 or September 1 as appropriate. He pointed out that the current situation could not have been foreseen in July.

3. Planning for Student Numbers

Associate Dean Beeson discussed the issues of managing student enrollment within the context of competitive student to faculty ratios. In recent years, A&S has exceeded its target student enrollment and this has put pressures on faculty resources. Reaching the desired concept of steady state enrollments requires careful management of changes in the demographic mix of applicants, changes in transfer policies, and changes in policies that affect retention and graduation.

Dean Cooper pointed out that if the present target number of 505 T/TS faculty were increased by 21, the target student number could be increased to accommodate larger enrollments without a change in the student to faculty ratio — this change would improve our ability to serve historical constituencies. Dean Cooper asked the Planning and Budget Committee to support a request to the Provost for funds to support an additional 21 T/TS faculty slots, to be allocated to the departments on the basis of the usual criteria for T/TS staffing levels, including potential for excellence in faculty research and scholarship, strength of graduate programs, undergraduate enrollments and diversity.
After some discussion, there was a consensus that this request should be made to the Provost, and a motion was proposed and passed to that effect. Dean Cooper reminded those present that discussions in the PBC meetings are confidential.

4. “IT in the Classroom” Follow-up from FY 2004 Planning Document

Associate Dean Patricia Beeson said that one of the issues raised by the Provost in response to the Arts and Sciences Planning Document was the question of how the School of Arts and Sciences planned to implement the plans for increased use of IT in the classroom. Associate Dean Beeson said that she would present a report on this matter at the January meeting of the PBC.

5. Other Business

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 1:26 p.m.

Attending: Dean N. John Cooper (Chair); Associate Deans Patricia Beeson, W. Richard Howe, Steven Husted, and James F. Knapp; Assistant Dean Michelle L. Amato; Professors Nicole Constable, Stuart Hastings, Delanie Jenkins, and Laura Ruetsche; Ms. Phyllis Deasy, Ms. Kristen Flanagan, Ms. Patricia Henry, Mr. Jason Morris, Ms. Dorothy Shallenberger, and Mr. Jamie Tarpley

Not Attending: Assistant Dean Barbara L. Vattimo; Professors Carson Chow and Evelyn Rawski

1. Minutes of the Meeting Held on November 5, 2003

The minutes of the meeting held on November 5, 2003, were reviewed. It was moved and seconded that these minutes be approved. Motion was carried.

2. Dean's Announcements

   a. Patricia Beeson, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies in Arts and Sciences (A&S), will become the University’s new Vice Provost for Graduate Studies effective May 1, 2004. Associate Dean Beeson will replace Dr. Elizabeth Baranger who is retiring from the position effective June 30, 2004.

   b. James Sismour, A&S Executive Director for Development, has accepted a position as the Chief Development Officer at Children’s Hospital Foundation. James has done a great job since the fall of 1998, and has built the major gift team responsible for over $57 million in gifts and commitments to date in support of Arts and Sciences within the Capital Campaign. He leaves us on track for our goal of $100 million by the end of Phase II. James’ last day will be January 30, and we wish him the best of luck in his new capacity. Associate Vice Chancellor for University Development David Dalessandro will serve as Interim Executive Director while we search for James’ successor.

   c. The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation has named Robert B. Brandom, University of Pittsburgh Distinguished Service Professor of Philosophy, recipient of a Mellon Distinguished Achievement Award in “recognition of his exemplary contributions to humanistic scholarship.” The award is one of the largest grants worldwide given to recognize individual academic achievement. Only four candidates were chosen this year to receive the award, which was established in 2001 and provides funds of $1.5 million per awardee spread over three years.

   d. Daniel Mossé, Associate Professor of Computer Science, and Chair Rami Melhem are co-principal investigators for a recently awarded $2.8 million NSF grant for an Emergency Management system called S-CITI (Secure Critical Information Technology Infrastructure). S-CITI will be the first system of its kind to simultaneously integrate data from multiple sources and will allow emergency managers in Allegheny County to make timely and better planned responses. S-CITI will integrate incoming real-time data from cameras and sensors and signal when data deviates from normal activity.

3. Election of A&S Representatives to Provost’s PBC

Dean Cooper referred members present to a memo received from the Provost regarding the composition of the Provost’s PBC, which is the group responsible for reading the Planning Documents from the various schools within Pitt. The Provost’s response to the Planning Document comprises two parts: a letter from the Provost and a report written by the Provost’s PBC. The Provost has asked that three faculty members from the A&S-PBC be elected to the Provost’s PBC by January 30, 2004. Dean Cooper outlined the options for electing these A&S-PBC representatives. The Dean suggested that the three faculty directly elected by the faculty to the PBC be asked to serve concurrent terms representing the three divisions of A&S on the Provost’s PBC, but committee members pointed out that elected faculty on the A&S-PBC serve a three-year term, while the faculty elected to the Provost’s PBC are elected for a two-year term. The Committee asked the
Dean to discuss with the Provost whether the A&S elected faculty on the Provost committee could be elected for terms running concurrently with the A&S terms, from August through May, and for a three-year term. After some discussion, the Committee agreed that in the interim three volunteers for appointment to the Provost's PBC should be solicited from the six elected A&S-PBC faculty members. After some discussion, a motion was proposed that the A&S-PBC members appointed to the Provost's PBC for the next two years be Stuart Hastings (Mathematics), Delanie Jenkins (Studio Arts), and Laura Ruetsche (Philosophy). All three agreed to serve, and the motion was carried unanimously.

4. Discussion of Vision for IT Section of Planning Document

Dean Cooper said that an important question raised as part of the Provost's response to last year's Planning Document concerned the vision of the Arts and Sciences for the implementation of information technology, especially in the classroom context. The Dean said that although his office now has an up-to-date inventory of hardware and ports within the Arts and Sciences departments, there is still a need to articulate the plans for the use of information technology in instruction. Responses from departments were varied, and the Dean recommended that the Planning Document should articulate a vision of how information technology should be used in A&S, followed by indications of recommended best practices. Associate Dean Beeson distributed copies of a summary of a discussion involving Dean Cooper, Associate Dean Beeson, Dean Lesgold (Education), and Lauren Resnick (Director, LRDC) regarding the role of technology in Arts and Sciences. The aim of the discussion was to construct a statement of the vision in Arts and Sciences for the use of information technology, taking into consideration its potential roles in research, as a teaching and learning tool, and as a means of communication. It was noted that technology has reduced the time spent in data collection and analysis, allowing for more constructive use of critical thinking. Associate Dean Beeson said that while some skills are discipline-specific, there are some skills in IT that are common to all disciplines, and we have a responsibility to ensure that students are equipped to make the best use of available technologies, including evaluation of sources, while understanding the limits of technological resources. There was a discussion of discipline-specific approaches to the communication of ideas.

There was some discussion regarding ways of motivating faculty and students to make the best use of available technology, although users range from those who eagerly adopt all new technologies to those who are cautious users or traditionalists. Associate Dean Beeson said that the vision of Arts and Sciences should include a plan to assist departments in the development of curricula that will ensure that students will be able to use the technologies appropriate to their disciplines.

There was some discussion of the importance of maintaining adequate base funding for the supply and maintenance of both hardware and software. It was pointed out that although the Natural Science departments have been successful in attracting lucrative grants, this source of funding was not as accessible to Social Science or Humanities departments. There was some discussion regarding wireless systems, digital media, off-campus access to databases, and tools of scholarship. Members of the committee related their experiences with indexing-dependent and scanned search programs and methods, digital imaging, global positioning systems, and very advanced searches dependent upon coding of text in ways that survive generations of technological change. It was also noted that students still need to know about ways of researching that do not involve the internet, and the curriculum should include instruction in research methods and evaluation as well as appropriate use, ethics, citation methods, and copyright awareness. Student members of the PBC said that faculty example and involvement play a major role in motivating students to make maximum use of new technologies. There was also some concern about the need for instruction in issues of publication and communication of research findings. Associate Dean Beeson said that although this can involve discipline-specific issues, there are also broader principles that can be learned at the undergraduate level, and can be useful for students in presentations and communication. Dean Cooper thanked members of the committee for their input regarding this important section of the Planning Document.


Dean Cooper said that the Planning Document included several appendices that need to be updated, but will not need close review or editing by the members of the PBC. Dean Cooper and Assistant Dean Michelle Amato have begun this updating process, and the Dean undertook to provide, as far as possible, updated copies of these appendices for review by the PBC at the next meeting to be held on February 6, 2004.

6. Other Business

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 10:30 a.m.
Discussion about the clarity and language structure of the statements, and whether or not the language expressed adequately the character of all disciplines. Dean Cooper will review the section taking into consideration the suggestions of Committee members.

5. Review of Introductory Sections of the Planning Document

Dean Cooper distributed copies of the draft version of Section F of the Planning Document. He pointed out that since this document addresses a five-year plan, some sections will require very little change for this year’s document. A&S-PBC members reviewed the draft. Dean Cooper reminded PBC that this document also provides an opportunity to highlight the achievements of A&S. There was a discussion about recently announced awards, and the Dean asked that he be advised of any other awards not listed. Dean Cooper said that if possible, he would circulate electronically draft sections of the Planning Document as they are updated.

6. Other Business

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 10:17 a.m.
a. Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg has honored 14 faculty members for outstanding contributions to teaching, research, and public service. Faculty honorees—as well as a number of distinguished Pitt staff, alumni, and students—will be recognized during the University of Pittsburgh’s 28th Annual Honors Convocation on February 27 in the Carnegie Museum of Pittsburgh Music Hall. Honorees from Arts and Sciences this year are:

Teaching Award: Paul J. Kameen, an associate professor in the Department of English, is being recognized for 23 years of teaching excellence, during which he worked “to support and improve writing across the undergraduate curriculum” by engaging students through productive discussions. Kameen teaches the freshman composition course, where he helps nurture the skills necessary for students “to embrace the intellectual work of the University.” In addition to working with undergraduates, he has written an award-winning textbook on the teaching of writing, and he also mentors teaching assistants and part-time faculty.

Senior Research Award: Kathleen Blee, a professor in the Department of Sociology, is being honored for her research on racist and extremist politics that has been praised for its “methodological rigor, meticulous historical scholarship, and rigorous empirical field research.” The “sheer courage” that she has brought to “what must have been agonizing and often dangerous work” produced the book *Women of the Klan: Racism and Gender in the 1920s* (University of California Press, 1991), as well as the book *Inside Organized Racism: Women in the Hate Movement* (University of California Press, 2002). The latter received full-page coverage in *The New York Times*, a rare phenomenon for a scholarly book and indicative of its academic and popular acclaim.

Junior Research Award: Included in the honorees in the Junior Scholar category is Jeremy Levy, an associate professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy, who is being honored for his “dramatic work in the fields of nanoscience and quantum information,” which has contributed to the University’s international reputation in these fields. Levy’s research “brings quantum computation one step closer to reality.” He has developed nanostructured materials as well as innovative “spin-control” techniques using electric fields, which are easier to manipulate than magnetic fields. On a theoretical level, he has shown that quantum information can be encoded in pairs of spins to perform basic computer operations.

b. Staff Awards: Winners of the newly expanded annual Chancellor’s awards of excellence for staff were announced in January. This year, for the first time, two awards were offered—one for excellence in service to the community and one for excellence in service to the University. The service awards, open to all classified and union full- and part-time staff members who have been employed at the University for at least five years, are the highest awards that Pitt grants to staff members.

The new community service excellence award honors staff members for dedication and effort to improve the quality of life for others, and Karen F. Ianni, Administrator in the Department of Psychology, was one of the winners of this new award. Karen began her career at Pitt in 1977 as a secretary/receptionist in the Department of Psychology and has served in various capacities in that department in her 25-plus years on the Pitt staff. Karen has given her time to assist various volunteer groups including Family House of Pittsburgh, Project Bundle-Up, WQED and the University's Day of Caring, as well as in youth and music activities within St. Stephen's Byzantine Catholic Church.

Barbara J. Mowery, Senior Advisor in the A&S Advising Center, won a Chancellor’s Award for Staff Excellence in Service to the University. Babs began her career at the university in 1972; she earned a master’s degree in Education, and is working toward a doctorate degree. Babs has volunteered to assist at many A&S events, including PittStart sessions, graduation ceremonies, and the United Way Day of Caring, and is the A&S Advising Center’s liaison to athletic support services. She also served as president of the Staff Association Council for two years. Associate Dean Beeson described Babs as “part of the life blood of Pitt, exactly the sort of person this award is intended to recognize.”

c. Researchers at the University of Pittsburgh and Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center are developing a software tool, called SUMS, that will quantify and analyze programmer time in next-generation supercomputing. As part of a national effort to boost the power of supercomputers a thousand-fold by 2010, researchers at the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center (PSC) and the University of Pittsburgh are collaborating to define and measure supercomputer productivity. The team, led by Rami Melhem, Chair of the University of Pittsburgh Computer Science Department, will develop tools to account for the human time involved in writing, debugging and optimizing software. IBM has provided $900,000 to the University of Pittsburgh Computer Science Department as part of a three-year effort called PERCS (Productive, Easy-to-use, Reliable Computing System) to rethink the design of supercomputers; a major portion of this funding supports the Pitt-PSC collaboration.
d. On January 29, 2004, Thomas Hales, professor of discrete geometry in the Department of Mathematics, gave a lecture titled “Automated Theorem Proving in Geometry.” This lecture marked his formal installation as the Andrew Mellon Professor of Mathematics in the Pitt School of Arts & Sciences. Hales is known for developing a computer-aided approach that has now been accepted as a proof of the mathematical problem called the Kepler Conjecture, a problem in solid geometry that had been open since 1611.

e. Professor Bruce McConachie, Acting Chair of the Theatre Arts Department, will celebrate the release of his new book, American Theatre in the Culture of the Cold War, with a book signing on February 25, 2004, at the Henry Heymann Theatre. The book is a testament to the influence of stage and television performances on cold war society in America.

f. The Global Studies program at the University Center for International Studies (UCIS) has announced the winners of the 2004 Global Academic Partnership (GAP) program grants. GAP is designed to strengthen interdisciplinary research and curriculum development in global issues while enhancing the international scholarly ties and profile of the University. Specifically, the program supports interdisciplinary international research conferences or workshops that result in publications and curricular enhancements pertaining to one of the six foci of the global studies program at UCIS. The award is co-sponsored by the Office of the Provost. The winners include:

• A group led by Donna Gabaccia, Mellon Professor of History; Giuseppina Mecchia, Assistant Professor of French and Italian; and Paula Kane, Marous Chair of Religious Studies, for the project: “Love of Country: Intimacy and Nation in Italy’s Migrations,” a project which focuses on the 25 million persons who left Italy as migrants to live and work on four continents. An international research team including partners from the University of Toronto and the University of Western Australia will explore the relationship between human mobility, private behavior and the acquisition of national identities. The research will culminate in a conference at Pitt in April 2005.

• A team led by Shalini Puri, Associate Professor of English; Marcus Rediker, Professor of History; and Joseph Alter, Professor of Anthropology, for the project: “Comparative Postcolonialities: Aesthetics, History, Locality.”

3. Fiscal Year 2005 Budget Responsibility Center Planning Information

Dean Cooper pointed out that the agenda for this meeting had been revised to include a review of this document which had been received from the Office of the Provost in the previous week. He reminded members of the PBC that information discussed in the PBC meetings should be held confidential. The Dean also pointed out that the budget section of the A&S Planning Document had already been prepared by Assistant Dean Barbara Vattimo, and was reviewed at the previous meeting. Dean Cooper reviewed the Planning Information with members of the PBC, and explained categories of information and terminology within the various reports. He pointed out that over 100 new endowments have been created so far in the capital campaign. There was a short discussion regarding the oversight of these funds.

4. Review of Draft Sections of the Planning Document

Dean Cooper asked PBC to review drafts of two sections of the Planning Document at this meeting: the IT section, and the Undergraduate section. The Dean presented an apology from Associate Dean Patricia Beeson who was unable to attend the meeting.

a. Information Technology: Dean Cooper said that the goal in this section was to produce an analysis of the A&S approach to IT, and to enumerate the goals of A&S for the best use of IT within A&S departments. He said that up to this point, A&S planning for IT had been very functional, but the aim now was to articulate the A&S vision for the application of new technologies within A&S. There was some discussion regarding the need for instruction in the use of software so that students could be encouraged to make maximum use of available technology.

b. Undergraduate Education: Dean Cooper pointed out that this section contains a review of last year’s goals and a discussion of how these goals are being achieved. There was some discussion about instructional lab facilities and computers, the Classic Clips video segments circulated by Associate Dean Beeson, and the role of CIDDE within the A&S context. To date, video segments featuring the following faculty have been posted: Peter Siska (Chemistry), James Seitz (English), David Birnbaum (Slavic), Douglas Chew (Biological Sciences), Chandralekha Singh (Physics), Richard Scaglion (Anthropology), Janelle Greenberg (History), and David Dejong (Economics). There was some discussion regarding faculty ranking and lectureships.

There was some discussion regarding university education across the country and the attitude of state leg-
islatures, including the extent to which universities are or are not funded by state governments.

Dean Cooper asked members of the PBC to accept the drafts as amended by the discussions at this meeting. This motion was carried.

5. Other Business

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 10:28 a.m.

A&S GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 21, 2003


1. Accepted and unanimously approved of September 19, 2003, meeting minutes.

2. Paula Grabowski, former member of the A&S Graduate Council, volunteered to serve as the at-large member for the UCGS.

3. Associate Dean Husted reported on the status of the Cross Campus Molecular Biophysics Program (CCMP) and the additions of Areas of Concentration for IDMA program. The CCMP was put on the agenda for UCGS November meeting and was passed unanimously. It will now be reported to the Provost for his approval. The Areas of Concentration for the IDMA were approved by Vice Provost Baranger and now can be implemented.

4. Proposal for a Computer Engineering major in the graduate program of Computer Science. Guest, Rami Melhem, Chair of the Department of Computer Science, addressed the Council regarding this proposal.

Two proposals will be presented, one from the School of Engineering and one from the Department of Computer Science, with the Provost eventually choosing one. The School of Engineering’s proposal will encompass more graduate students than the Computer Science proposal, in that it would include a larger master’s program. Both schools would offer a PhD major in Computer Engineering.

Questions raised regarding program: Was there a sense of what the number of potential students would be; what is happening in the job market for PhDs in this area; what is the competition for students like in this area? Professor Melhem indicated that the job market was initially very good, but now, not as good but they have confidence that it will get better later. The academic job market is still very strong. Computer Science does not have the resources to teach a professional master’s program but will offer a terminal master’s as long as resources allow with program considering five to 10 master’s students per year. There is a core faculty which is a subset of the two schools. Outside faculty can contribute to the program with approval from the committee; keeping in mind that the faculty list can be an influential factor for potential students. Majority of first year students will do core courses, offered by existing faculty, then move into research getting faculty grant support, taking an average of five years or so for degree. Once students declare a research group, they will then have to get support from that group. Computer Science students may have one T.A. ship but not two. How will this school compete with CMU? Pitt is not competing for the same clientele; top students would go to CMU not here, but we can compete with other schools. Resources will be provided by the two deans. The first year’s support will come from the program, but after that, depending on the faculty member they RA for, they will then become a part of that school.

Husted stated that there was a need for some changes in the document before Council sent it on. Husted asked Council, subject to editorial changes, if it would be in favor of the proposal. A motion to accept the proposal was made, seconded and unanimously approved, pending editorial changes requested by Husted.

5. Choosing of departments for TA/TF review. Husted explained the review process to Council then asked for their recommendations. The Council chose the departments of History, History and Philosophy of Science, and Sociology to be reviewed with the following committee members:

Department of History: Graduate Student Michelle Belfort and Professor John Hillier
HPS: Graduate Student Margaret Kerr and Professor John Markoff
Sociology: Graduate Student Kate Dimitrova and Professor Patrick Card

These committee members were then given a copy of “Some Successful Strategies for TA Training in FAS” to assist them in conducting this review.

6. Dean’s Announcements:

- A member of the Carnegie Initiative came to Pittsburgh to meet with our three departments. She hoped that Pitt would lend a hand in helping the departments work together on the Initiative. She felt

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it would be helpful if Pitt could facilitate some on-campus meetings with the departments involved. Also, she wanted Pitt to think of ways for departments who are not part of Initiative to benefit from what is learned. Husted volunteered representatives from all three of our departments to meet with the graduate council in February to give a report on their progress.

- UCGS passed a resolution at its last meeting to mandate electronic theses and dissertations (ETD) by all graduate students, effective AY05. Training and templates are on the Web to help with producing the ETD. It should be noted that it is important for students to start with the template.

7. New business:

External Committee Members. Discussion of the need for at least one external reviewer to be an expert in dissertation topic area. A&S prefers to have external interviewers at the defense, and this can hamper choosing a qualified external member. Student is usually responsible for expenses of external member. Option: The department can invite external examiner as an outside speaker then have him/her sit on the defense at the same time. Alternatively, send the thesis to advisors and they sign off, and comment whether they want the student to defend or not.

CID came up with basically three issues for all schools to examine: (1) Conceptual analysis of the education process and of its relationship to the nature of the program, (2) Design experiments that should evolve out of the first exercise in order to explore the impact of changes on the success of the program, and (3) Assessment, research, and dissemination.

CID wanted the English Department to look at three areas: (1) Its comprehensive exam, what is it doing, how are they preparing students for it, course work, etc. (2) Assessment via a survey. Ask students for their experience with the comprehensive exam and advising. (3) Examining and assessing work going on between faculty and students. How does the faculty’s intellectual work relate to that of the students?

The History Department indicated that it would send members to the next annual American Historical Association meetings to participate in a panel that discusses the CID initiative. History like English found one big problem with CID, assessment. How does one assess success?

Part of the CID initiative involves the formation of graduate student discussion groups. The History students identified two issues: (1) Graduate student participation in the department i.e. committees, meetings, etc. It was found that students who participated in these things played a larger role in the department. (2) Accountability of faculty. There were no rules, or consistent guidelines for the comprehensive exam, and there was variation in quality of advising. Students did not know what to do if a faculty member was a poor advisor or teacher.

Neuroscience provided the last presenters. They felt that some of the things CID suggested they had already put into motion, yet were primarily concerned with two issues: (1) Assessment. How do we know if what we are doing is making a difference? Need a good way of monitoring outcome and although they do not have it yet, it is something that cannot be ignored. (2) CID forces them to identify specific issues which they are focusing on. Other than listing what they expected of students they never thought to list what they expected of training faculty. What was their responsibility and what could students expect from them? Also they found that the directors of programs did not know what to do if a faculty member was a poor advisor or teacher.

Panel indicated that there are two meetings a year, plus their annual disciplinary meetings, and CID expects that most of the initial work will be done in three years with CID coming up with a report in five years. In the first meeting schools indicate what they would like to do and the second meeting is a follow-up of those issues with projections for the next meet-
ing, etc. It is the hope of CID that this group will act as a core that will spread throughout academe.

Although most schools found the assessment part the most unsatisfying, CID does not want to set up the grid for assessment, they want the schools to come up with their own grid. It may take six to seven years for results to confirm the success of any evaluation process. Attrition also has to have a play in assessment. Other issues—such as what is quality and progress—have to be measured. How does a department conceptualize its program? What are its milestones? It was vastly different across schools.

Other questions raised: Associate Dean Husted asked if the limited availability of funding had any impact on when milestones should be reached and what progress should be made, and had this issue been discussed? Council asked if these departments met with different disciplines or just their discipline? One department indicated that since they have taken part in the CID, the relationship between students and faculty, which was not very good, has improved.

Associate Dean Husted thanked the panel and suggested that maybe in another year they could give us an update.

4. Associate Dean Husted instructed council to review the 10 department Web pages indicated. The departments were previously reviewed and the council was now to check to see if they have applied any of the suggestions they received.

5. Associate Dean Husted informed the Council that the NRC graduate studies evaluation process has been postponed for a year; this gives departments a little more time to prepare.

A&S UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 17, 2003

Attended: Associate Dean Patricia Beeson and Assistant Dean Bonnie Battle; Student Representatives: Matthew Carmody, Josh Taylor, and Felix Yerace; Faculty Members: Joseph Boudreau, Janelle Greenberg, Jonathan Harris, John Marx, Clark Muenzer, Alexander Orbach, and Craig Peebles

Announcements by Associate Dean:

Update on College Activities

- Curriculum: As part of the implementation of the curricular changes approved by the faculty in April 2002, each department has submitted a document assessing their current curriculum and outlining changes in response to the new mandates. These plans have been reviewed by the Curriculum Implementation Committee and the committee’s comments are being sent to the departments. The CIC is also developing a new video series called “Classic Clips: Teaching in the Arts and Sciences.” The series will feature 3.5 minute video clips of the A&S faculty similar to the videos produced for the Bellet Awards last year.

- Enrollments and Retention: Applications to the College continue to increase. The Office of Admissions and Financial Aid has taken advantage of this application pressure to continue to select highly qualified applicants for admission to the College. Overall enrollments this year are down slightly from last year, as was planned in order to bring enrollments more in line with the size of the faculty. Retention rates have increased slightly over the past year.

- Student Services:
  - Academic Support Center: A new Math Assistance Center opened this term on the third floor of Thackrey Hall, adjacent to the Mathematics Department. The MAC, run jointly by the College and the Mathematics Department, is staffed by undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty. It provides individual and group tutoring in all levels of math, and coordinates the Undergraduate Teaching Assistant program for the Algebra sections. Both the MAC and the Writing Center in Thaw Hall report heavy usage this term.

  - Advising: Assistant Dean Mellix will undertake a review of departmental advising. This academic year, she and one of the senior advisors will visit each department to speak with the advisors and make an assessment of advising in each department. The goal is to ensure that we have consistent quality of advising across all departments.

  - Freshman Programs: Assistant Dean Dice continues to refocus the Freshman Programs to be an introduction to the academic life in the Arts and Sciences, rather than an orientation to general University services, as it had been in the past. In addition to the completely revamped Freshman Studies class, special sections targeted to students who have an interest in service learning or research are being offered, as well as 10 sections that combine Freshman Studies and Seminar in Composition. There is also a new Freshmen Lecture series in which our faculty will present lectures on their research to freshmen. The inaugural lecture will be given by Professor Marcia Landy (English), followed by Professors Bard Ermentrout (Math) and Janelle Greenberg (History). The Office of Experiential Learning is developing a
new program called First Experiences in Research, for second-term freshmen, that will begin this spring.

General Business:

Associate Dean Beeson asked council how it would like to organize its work, given that it has the new responsibility of reviewing courses for the General Education Requirements, and that committee membership has been expanded by three to assist in the new task. Council discussed two options: (1) to form subcommittees that would review proposals and then report to Council, who would then vote based on the subcommittee recommendations; and (2) to continue to operate as a full Council. After discussion, Council voted to continue to operate as a full Council.

Review of Guidelines for General Education Requirements:

Draft guidelines for the General Education Requirements were circulated prior to the meeting and were approved with minor changes. These guidelines are to be posted on the College Web site for use as reference by faculty when developing and submitting courses to satisfy General Education Requirements.

Foreign Language Report:

In September 2002, Associate Dean Beeson formed and charged a committee to review the Foreign Language Requirement, as mandated by the faculty as part of the curriculum review. The committee report was circulated to the Council members prior to this meeting. The committee discussed various points of the report and asked that the Chair of the ad hoc committee be invited to the next Council meeting to discuss the report. Council also directed Associate Dean Beeson to gather additional information on benchmark institutions and to prepare budget information.

Discussion on Foreign Language Report:

Associate Dean Beeson circulated information collected at Council’s request.

• When compared based on credits/hours, Pitt is still low (comparable to Penn State, Rutgers, SUNY Buffalo) but not as low, relatively, when compared based on terms. This is because with exception of Michigan, Minnesota, and Virginia, elementary language classes are four credits/four contact hours rather than the five credits/five contact hours at Pitt (so two terms at Pitt equal 10 hours while three terms at UNC equal 11 hours).

• Several comparison institutions have differential requirements by department or degree (BS v BA).

Professor Kathleen Dewalt, chair of the ad hoc Language Committee, spoke with Council about the committee’s deliberations. The committee was charged to make recommendation that is “resource neutral,” and the committee considered three alternatives: no language requirement (this had no support from the committee), keep requirement as is, or increase the requirement.

Committee recommended:

1. Increasing the language requirement for Arts and Sciences undergraduates from the present two semesters to three semesters of university-level language courses (1-3) and from the current 10 credits to 13 credits of college-level study

2. Allowing incoming students to fulfill the language requirement with four years of high school study

3. Counting the third semester of language study as fulfilling the Foreign Culture Requirement

These recommendations were based on the committee’s perception of the value of foreign language in a Liberal Arts curriculum, and Pitt’s image as institution strong in international studies but strangely light on the language requirement.

Discussion followed and included the following:

• K. DeWalt reported that the committee felt that recommendations #2 and #3 would minimize the budgetary impact and encourage area high schools to strengthen their language requirement. Council also questioned the resource neutrality of the proposal.

• There was discussion of whether three terms of language is sufficient to have a notable impact on our student’s fluency and ability to achieve the benefits of language study. It was indicated that the jump from college level two to three is greater than from three to four.
• Council noted that increasing the language requirement will necessarily mean that students will take less of something else, likely an international/foreign culture class, given recommendation #3, raising the question of whether language training is a better way to learn about foreign cultures than other culture courses.

• K. DeWalt reported that in most cases, having three years of high school language places students into the second-level language at the university level. Along with the recommendation to increase the requirement to three terms, the Foreign Language Committee recommended increasing the amount of high school language required to exempt the requirement—from the current three years of high school language to four years of the same language, or three years of one language plus one of a second language. Approximately 82 percent of our admits have the language requirement completed by the third year of the same high school language.

• The committee did not make a recommendation on exemption based on Advance Placement Exams.

• Council discussed the role of placement testing. Placement testing will be more widespread and some students with three years of a high school language may place into first- or second-level language, increasing the need for these courses over the current offerings. This would present a staffing problem for first- and second-level courses.

• Question of who would staff the language classes was raised.

Conclusion: Gather more information from benchmark schools such as number of freshmen taking language courses, who teaches introductory-level language courses, class size, placement testing, other general education requirements, and requirements for BS vs. BA degrees.

Associate Dean Beeson will arrange to have these data collected.
FACTOR PERSONNEL ACTIONS

APPOINTMENTS

CHEMISTRY
Vladimir Alexeev
Research Assistant Professor
October 1, 2003

PHILOSOPHY
Gordon Belot
Associate Professor w/tenure
February 1, 2004

PSYCHOLOGY
Ellen Redinbaugh
Research Assistant Professor
December 1, 2003

STATISTICS
Wesley Thompson
Assistant Professor
January 1, 2004

THEATRE ARTS
Melanie Dreyer-Lude
Assistant Professor
January 1, 2004

Douglas Pona
Visiting Lecturer
September 1, 2003

CHANGES IN RANK

COMPUTER SCIENCE
Panos Chrysanthis
Promoted, Professor
January 1, 2004

LINGUISTICS
Shelome Gooden
Title Changed, Assistant Professor
January 1, 2004

MUSIC
Mathew Rosenblum
Promoted, Professor
January 1, 2004

PHILOSOPHY
James Allen
Promoted, Professor
January 1, 2004

Jason Dickenson
Title Changed, Visiting Assistant Professor
January 1, 2004

Jessica Moss
Title Changed, Assistant Professor
January 1, 2004

PSYCHOLOGY
Michael Sayette
Promoted, Professor
January 1, 2004

ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES

STATISTICS
Henry Block, Jr.
Succeeding Satish Iyengar as Acting Chair
January 1, 2004

SABBATICALS/LEAVES OF ABSENCE

ANTHROPOLOGY
Marc Bermann
Sabbatical Leave
January 1–April 30, 2004

Jeffrey Schwartz
Sabbatical Leave
January 1–April 30, 2004

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES
Susan Gilbert
Leave of Absence
January 1–April 30, 2004

CHEMISTRY
David Pratt
Sabbatical Leave
January 1–April 30, 2004

CLASSES
Mae Smethurst
Sabbatical Leave
January 1–April 30, 2004

COMMUNICATION
Lester Olson
Sabbatical Leave
January 1–April 30, 2004

ECONOMICS
Andreas Blume
Sabbatical Leave
January 1–April 30, 2004

ENGLISH
Fiona Cheong
Sabbatical Leave
January 1–April 30, 2004

Michael Helfand
Sabbatical Leave
January 1–April 30, 2004

Lee Gutkind
Sabbatical Leave
January 1–April 30, 2004

Valerie Krips
Leave of Absence
January 5–April 23, 2004

Kimberly Latta
Leave of Absence
January 1–April 30, 2004

Kellie Robertson
Leave of Absence
January 1–April 30, 2004

Mariolina Salvatori
Leave of Absence
January 1–April 30, 2004

HISTORY
Janelle Greenberg
Sabbatical Leave
January 1–April 30, 2004

Orysia Karapinka
Sabbatical Leave
January 1–April 30, 2004
Sabbatical Leave
January 1–April 30, 2004

Richard Smethurst
Sabbatical Leave
January 1–April 30, 2004

MATHEMATICS
Carson Chow
Leave of Absence
January 1–December 31, 2004

Yibiao Pan
Leave of Absence
January 26–February 22, 2004

Patrick Rabier
Sabbatical Leave
January 1–April 30, 2004

PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY
H. E. Anthony Duncan
Sabbatical Leave
January 1–April 30, 2004

POLSICAL SCIENCE
Susan Hansen
Sabbatical Leave
January 1–April 30, 2004

PSYCHOLOGY
Martin Greenberg
Sabbatical Leave
January 1–April 30, 2004

RELIGIOUS STUDIES
Alexander Orbach
Sabbatical Leave
January 1–April 30, 2004

SLAVIC LANGUAGES & LITERATURES
Helena Goscilo
Leave of Absence
January 1–April 30, 2004

SOCIOLOGY
Akiko Hashimoto
Sabbatical Leave
January 1–April 30, 2004

STATISTICS
Leon Gleser
Sabbatical Leave
January 1–April 30, 2004

Satish Iyengar
Leave of Absence
January 1–December 31, 2004

STUDIO ARTS
Paul Glabicki
Sabbatical Leave
January 1–April 30, 2004

SEMESTER-AT-SEA

POLITICAL SCIENCE
Raymond Owen, Academic Dean
Spring 2004 Voyage

SOCIOLOGY
Thomas Schott
Spring 2004 Voyage

RETRIEMENT

ECONOMICS
Jerome Wells
Professor Emeritus
April 30, 2004

HISTORY OF ART AND ARCHITECTURE
David Wilkins
Professor Emeritus
August 31, 2004

RESIGNATIONS

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES
Dougush Chew
Laboratory Instructor
February 1, 2004

HISPANIC LANGUAGES & LITERATURES
Susan Berk-Seligson
Associate Professor
August 31, 2004

LINGUISTICS
David Quinto-Pozos
Lecturer
May 14, 2004

NEUROSCIENCE
Edda Thiels
Research Associate Professor
March 31, 2004

POLITICAL SCIENCE
Mitchell Seligson
Daniel H. Wallace Professor
August 31, 2004

PSYCHOLOGY
Janine Flory
Research Assistant Professor
February 29, 2004

END OF CONTRACT

ENGLISH
Moya Luckett
Assistant Professor
April 30, 2004
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