

A&S GAZETTE

School of Arts and Sciences

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MAY 31, 2005

A&S COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, JANUARY 31, 2005 - 12:30 P.M.

In Attendance: Dean N. John Cooper (Chair); Associate Deans Steven Husted, James F. Knapp (Vice Chair), and Regina Schulte-Ladbeck; Assistant Dean Michelle L. Amato; Professors Daniel Berkowitz, Nicole Constable, William Harbert, Delanie Jenkins, John Norton, Vladimir Padunov, and Peter Siska; Mr. Richard Clarke and Mr. Daniel Radelet

Not Attending: Professors Joseph Adjaye, Carson Chow, Patrick Doreian, Stephen Meriney, and Franklin Toker

1. Minutes of the Meeting Held on December 13, 2004

Dean Cooper presented the minutes of the meeting held on December 13, 2004. A suggestion to correct the title of Assistant Professor Scott Kiesling was made and Steven Husted put forth a motion to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded by Vladimir Padunov and accepted unanimously.

2. Dean's Report

- **Vernell Lillie**, Associate Professor of Africana Studies, is this year's recipient of the **Drum Major for Justice Award** by the Homer S. Brown Law Association for her work as a professor and as Director of the Kuntu Repertory Theatre.
- **Sue Crain**, Director of Student Records for Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Studies, won one of the **Chancellor's Staff Awards for Excellence in Service** to the University.

3. Report from A&S Undergraduate Council

Associate Dean Schulte-Ladbeck explained that the A&S-UC had not yet met and therefore had nothing to report. She continued discussing the draft motion

regarding the change in writing requirements for undergraduate students. The motion to accept the change was put forth by Daniel Berkowitz, seconded by Peter Siska, and carried unanimously.

4. Report from A&S Graduate Council

Associate Dean Steven Husted explained that the A&S-GC had not yet met and therefore had nothing to report. He continued offering an update on the graduate application numbers. According to Associate Dean Husted by January 2005 A&S received 400 more applications than it had received by April 2004. A motion to accept the report from the A&S-GC was put forth by Associate Dean Knapp, seconded by John Norton, and carried unanimously.

5. Update on Statement on Diversity

Dean Cooper expressed the importance of continuing to attract and recruit diverse undergraduates in order to educate a broad spectrum of American society. Dean Cooper indicated that the Diversity Statement will probably be circulated as a memo from him; however, he will share the next draft with the council in the next couple of weeks.

6. Approval of Date and Agenda for Spring Full Faculty Meeting

March 29 1:00-4:00 p.m.
April 12 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Committee members selected the date of Tuesday, March 29 at 2:00 p.m. for the Spring Full Faculty Meeting. A motion to support the revised language of the agenda was put forth by Peter Siska, seconded by William Harbert, and carried unanimously.

7. Update on Item on Departmental Governance for Spring Full Faculty Meeting

This was covered under Item 6.

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8. Other Business

With no other business the meeting was adjourned at 1:13 p.m.

**A&S COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES**
MONDAY, MARCH 28, 2005 - 12:30 P.M.

In Attendance: Dean N. John Cooper (Chair); Associate Deans Steven Husted, James F. Knapp (Vice Chair), and Regina Schulte-Ladbeck; Professors Daniel Berkowitz, Nicole Constable, Patrick Doreian, William Harbert, Delanie Jenkins, Stephen Meriney, John Norton, Vladimir Padunov, Peter Siska, and Franklin Toker; Mr. Richard Clarke and Mr. Daniel Radelet

Not Attending: Assistant Dean Michelle L. Amato; Professors Joseph Adjaye and Carson Chow

1. Minutes of the Meeting Held on January 31, 2005

Dean Cooper presented the minutes of the meeting held on December 13, 2004. A suggestion to move William Harbert's name to the "In Attendance" section was made and Vladimir Padunov put forth a motion to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded by Nicole Constable and accepted unanimously.

2. Dean's Announcements

- **Thomas Metzger**, Associate Professor of Mathematics, died February 24, 2005, after a brief illness.

3. Report from A&S Undergraduate Council

Associate Dean Schulte-Ladbeck noted that the A&S-UC met on February 9 and March 24, with several additional meetings lined up to deal with the course proposal deadline of April 1. Associate Dean Schulte-Ladbeck explained that the A&S-UC received 14 proposals to make existing classes count towards the General Education Requirements and 10 were approved. In addition there were four course proposals that were rejected. Associate Dean Schulte-Ladbeck also noted that the course proposal forms have been updated.

Associate Dean Schulte-Ladbeck explained that the A&S-UC discussed the larger issue of Study Abroad service learning courses at their February 9 meeting. The A&S-UC received for review two Study Abroad service learning courses which were both rejected on academic grounds. A core problem with each of the proposed service learning courses was the inability of students to complete enough academic work to war-

rant the credit hours received from the course. The A&S-UC suggested that one credit field trips associated with classes that are being taught on campus are a promising format for Study Abroad service learning courses. On a side note, Associate Dean Schulte-Ladbeck announced that guidelines for internships would soon be available, and possibly posted on the Web.

Associate Dean Schulte-Ladbeck addressed the Council members and asked for a volunteer to act as the School Marshal to lead undergraduate students into the ceremony for this year's commencement. William Harbert volunteered.

Delanie Jenkins put forth a motion to accept the report from the A&S-UC. The motion was seconded by Franklin Toker and carried unanimously.

4. Report from A&S Graduate Council

Associate Dean Husted addressed the major items of business discussed in the A&S-GC, including the ongoing review of TA training (a process that touches individual departments once every 10 years) in Hispanic Languages and Literatures, Biological Sciences, and Philosophy. Another major item of business is the new major of Computational Biology that will be housed in the Computer Science Department. Associate Dean Husted explained that the Computational Biology major is part of a joint program with A&S, the School of Medicine, and Carnegie Mellon University, with faculty members from all three participating in its development. The A&S-GC reviewed the program which is designed to attract students with backgrounds in Computer Science, Mathematics, Neuroscience, and Physics and Astronomy. Associate Dean Husted noted that A&S is thinking of making an undergraduate major in this subject as well.

Stephen Meriney put forth a motion to accept the report from the A&S-GC. The motion was seconded by Patrick Doreian and carried unanimously.

5. Replacement of Steven Husted as Associate Dean for Graduate Studies

Dean Cooper announced that Associate Dean Husted would be stepping down from his position as Associate Dean for Graduate Studies after having been asked to be the Associate Editor for the *Journal of Economic Literature*.

Dean Cooper discussed the process for soliciting nominations for a new Associate Dean with the first step being to announce Associate Dean Husted's decision to the A&S Council. Dean Cooper explained that A&S needs someone who can assume the Associate Dean responsibilities for a three-year term, and invited the Council members to call or e-mail suggestions for possible candidates.

Dean Cooper thanked Associate Dean Husted for working with A&S for the last six years, and for the role he has taken in building joint programs that will open a way to develop strong graduate majors. Dean Cooper mentioned that Associate Dean Husted has been responsible for the increase in the amount of fellowships available for graduate students, and helped to raise endowments.

Council members put forth a motion of appreciation for Associate Dean Husted which passed by acclamation.

6. Other Business

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 1:12 p.m.

A&S PLANNING AND BUDGETING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 2005 - 12:30 P.M.

Attending: Dean N. John Cooper (Chair); Associate Deans W. Richard Howe, Steven Husted, James F. Knapp, and Regina Schulte-Ladbeck; Assistant Deans Michelle L. Amato and Barbara L. Vattimo; Professors Daniel Berkowitz, Stuart Hastings, Delanie Jenkins, Laura Ruetsche, and Alberta Sbragia; Mr. Robert Fagley, Ms. Patricia Henry, Mr. Jason Morris, Ms. Dorothy Shallenberger, and Ms. Donna Yurko

Not Attending: Professor Carson Chow and Ms. Kristen Flanagan

1. Minutes of the Meeting Held on October 27, 2004

Dean Cooper presented the minutes from the October 27, 2004 meeting. Associate Dean James Knapp put forth a motion to accept the minutes. That motion was seconded by Delanie Jenkins and carried unanimously.

2. Dean's Announcements

- **Carly Woods**, Graduate Student and Debate Coach for the Department of Communication, has been **selected to represent the United States in the 2005 Committee on International Discussion and Debate tour of Japan.**
- **Kenneth Jordan**, Chair of the Department of Chemistry, was included as **number eight of the Science top 10 scientific breakthroughs of 2004** for his research on the properties of water.
- **Muttaiya Sundaralingam**, Distinguished Pitt alumnus in Chemistry, **and his wife were**

casualties of the recent tsunami disaster. They were vacationing in Sri Lanka when the coastal town they were visiting was struck.

3. Report on Graduate Studies

Associate Dean Steven Husted stated that there was an article in the *University Times* concerning the Provost's approval of the Molecular Biology major. He continued that the Molecular Biology program is aimed at attracting exceptional students interested in participating in a doctoral program with outstanding faculty, and is set up to move students through a year more quickly than standard programs. The proposed new major was sent to the University Council for Graduate Studies and passed unanimously there.

Associate Dean Husted named the three existing joint programs available in Neuroscience, Biophysics, and Molecular Biology, as well as Computational Biology—a program that is still being developed.

Associate Dean Husted also mentioned the receipt of new money for fellowships to support the program in the School of Medicine.

Jason Morris put forward a motion to accept the report from the A&S-GC. That motion was seconded by Robert Fagley, and carried unanimously.

4. Report on Undergraduate Studies

Associate Dean Schulte-Ladbeck had nothing to report from the A&S-UC.

5. Update on Planning Strategy for FY 2006

Dean Cooper stated that it has become clear that there is a lack of transparency in departmental governance and that the A&S Council has placed on the agenda for the Spring Full Faculty Meeting a motion that would require departments to have departmental bylaws. Dean Cooper noted that some departments do have bylaws, and that most departments have customs although those customs may not be obvious to new faculty. The departmental bylaws could, for example, provide a definition of consensus within department voting—a department may require a two-thirds majority or a simple majority for certain decisions.

A discussion ensued addressing a question as to whether departmental bylaws might be too constricting for faculty members. Dean Cooper responded that structure may restrain faculty comments, but will undoubtedly help faculty members to think clearly about the decisions they make.

Dean Cooper spoke of gender diversity in relation to transparency within departments, and gave an update

on the development of an A&S Diversity Statement. Dean Cooper explained the Michigan decision and its relevance to A&S. The Michigan decision is generally interpreted as saying that having diversity goals for student recruiting is legal provided it is clear that the institution views diversity as an important part of the educational progress of the university.

Dean Cooper stated that while the Planning Document has dealt in a functional manner with looking forward, it would be useful to develop a communication strategy that goes beyond an annual plan and is intended to create a strong, broad identity that includes and promotes the integration of faculty, undergraduate students, and graduate students. A&S needs to define the messages that it is conveying to important audiences. Every major donor has wanted to see the Planning Document, and making it something that conveys the information donors are looking for would result in a more effective document that could achieve many purposes.

Dean Cooper listed four items to be addressed in the Planning Document:

- a. Diversity Issues
- b. Communication Strategy
- c. IT Review
- d. Benchmarking

The committee identified various faculty recognized for particular expertise in the use of IT within instruction who could assist with the IT review, and Dean Cooper indicated that he would invite them to the next meeting of the PBC.

6. Other Business

With no other business the meeting was adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

A&S PLANNING AND BUDGETING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2005 - 12:30 P.M.

Attending: Dean N. John Cooper (Chair); Associate Deans W. Richard Howe, Steven Husted, and Regina Schulte-Ladbeck; Assistant Dean Michelle L. Amato; Professors Daniel Berkowitz, Stuart Hastings, Delanie Jenkins, Laura Ruetsche, and Alberta Sbragia; Mr. Robert Fagley, Mr. Jason Morris, Ms. Dorothy Shallenberger, and Ms. Donna Yurko

Not Attending: Associate Dean James F. Knapp, Assistant Dean Barbara L. Vattimo, Professor Carson Chow, Ms. Kristen Flanagan, and Ms. Patricia Henry

1. Minutes of the Meeting Held on January 24, 2005

Dean Cooper presented the minutes from the January 24, 2005 meeting. Stuart Hastings put forth a motion to accept the minutes. That motion was seconded by Donna Yurko and carried unanimously.

2. Dean's Announcements

- *K. Leroy Irvis: The Lion of Pennsylvania*, a Pitt produced video documentary on the life of celebrated retired PA Speaker of the House and **Pitt Alumnus K. Leroy Irvis**, was aired on WQED-TV, this past week (2/3, 2/5, 2/6).

3. Update on Planning Strategy for FY 2006

At the previous meeting of the A&S-PBC, Dean Cooper asked for names of faculty and staff who would be able to participate in a discussion regarding IT use in and out of the classroom. The A&S-PBC was joined by Professors Lara Putnam, History; Joseph Grabowski, Chemistry; and Andrew Connolly, Physics; Dr. Shirley Cassing, Economics; and Ms. Claire Siskin, Linguistics.

Dean Cooper explained that in FY 2004, Department Chairs were asked to report on the use of IT within their departments with the idea that this information would be shared in order to assemble the best practices and to generate ideas for which A&S might raise additional support. He then opened the floor for discussion. Major points raised by members covered the topics listed below:

- The use of IT in visual sciences to generate images that help students to "see" chemical reactions and biological structures.
- The use of a Web Cam to complete American Sign Language homework.
- The use of chat rooms for faculty to have meetings and discussion.
- The use of Course Web for posting Web site links and resources available from around the world.
- The use of "clickers" in large lecture halls to generate more student interaction in lecture formats. Clickers are now inexpensive enough to bundle with textbooks.
- Use of online quizzing software that comes packaged with textbooks.
- An inventory of discipline specific resources including Web links people can go to—using the Cal Tech Web site as a model.

- Lack of access to mechanisms for projecting videos. Teachers are coming to the Language Media Center to show videos to classes (Nationality Room problem?).
- The need for more multimedia classrooms. Classrooms are under equipped.
- Can faculty gain access to the wireless network?
- The use of pictures of students as part of class rosters. Can download now, but can this program be linked with the PeopleSoft system and uploaded into Course Web?

Dean Cooper suggested that there be a future conversation on trying to expand Course Web and about the ability to teleconference using Instant Messenger.

Dean Cooper said that the Diversity Statement is still in the drafting stage; and emphasized its importance in the post-Michigan environment. Assistant Dean Michelle Amato demonstrated a surface-level search on the Web sites of the University's aspiration peers and found that institutions such as Ohio State, Penn State, the University of Maryland, and the University of Virginia address diversity, or provide links to diversity statements, on their main Web pages, while Rutgers, Delaware, and Illinois do not. A brief discussion ensued concerning the placement of the A&S Diversity Statement once it is official.

Dean Cooper reported that the A&S Council approved a draft motion for Departmental Governance, and gave an update on what information Council would like included in the implementation memo being sent out by the Dean. This amendment will be voted on by the A&S faculty at the Spring Full Faculty Meeting on March 29, 2005.

4. Provost's Instructions for Preparing the FY 2006 Planning Document

Dean Cooper said that the A&S-PBC has the Provost's instructions for creating the Planning Document. The goal is to create a document that is more compact and proactive. The items to be addressed are as follows:

- Computing Software
- Benchmarking
- Technology Planning
- Information Technology

5. Other Business

With no other business the meeting was adjourned at 1:59 p.m.

A&S PLANNING AND BUDGETING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2005 - 12:30 P.M.

Attending: Dean N. John Cooper (Chair); Associate Deans W. Richard Howe, Steven Husted, James F. Knapp, and Regina Schulte-Ladbeck; Assistant Deans Michelle L. Amato and Barbara L. Vattimo; Professors Daniel Berkowitz, Stuart Hastings, Delanie Jenkins, Laura Ruetsche, and Alberta Sbragia; Mr. Robert Fagley, Ms. Patricia Henry, Mr. Jason Morris, and Ms. Donna Yurko

Not Attending: Professor Carson Chow, Ms. Kristen Flanagan, and Ms. Dorothy Shallenberger

1. Minutes of the Meeting Held on February 7, 2005

Dean Cooper presented the minutes from the February 7, 2005 meeting. Associate Dean Steven Husted put forth a motion to accept the minutes. That motion was seconded by Delanie Jenkins and carried unanimously.

2. Dean's Announcements

Dean Cooper had nothing to report.

3. FY 2006 Budget Responsibility Center Planning Information

The *Fiscal Year 2006 Budget Responsibility Center Planning Information* from the Office of Financial Information was distributed to the members of the A&S-PBC for viewing and reference. Dean Cooper explained that it is not a public document and should not be shared. Discussion ensued concerning the contents of the document and the ways in which the reported information could be used, in principle, to assist in the writing of the Planning Document.

4. Core Messages for Arts and Sciences

Dean Cooper discussed the necessity for clarity within the core messages used to represent the Arts and Sciences. The statements made must be believably true and distinguish Arts and Sciences from other units at the University, and have validity across time to provide information about the A&S identity.

Dean Cooper explained that these core messages could, for example, serve as tools for Arts and Sciences development officers to show potential and current donors what the School is about and leave room for conversations about gifts and support. Discussion then ensued concerning the process for the construction of the core messages and the proper phrasing that should be used.

5. Review Draft Sections of Planning Document for FY 2006

Members of the PBC reviewed the following draft sections of the planning document:

- Draft Budget Section
- IT Draft

Dean Cooper explained that he would like to hold two meetings each fall with *ad hoc* IT representatives in order to construct and distribute a memo concerning IT updates, and better ways for faculty to communicate with CIDDE and CSSD.

- Appendices for Planning Document

6. Other Business

With no other business the meeting was adjourned at 1:53 p.m.

**A&S PLANNING AND BUDGETING
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 2005 - 1:00 P.M.

Attending: Dean N. John Cooper (Chair); Associate Deans Steven Husted, James F. Knapp, and Regina Schulte-Ladbeck; Assistant Deans Michelle L. Amato and Barbara L. Vattimo; Professors Daniel Berkowitz, Stuart Hastings, Delanie Jenkins, Laura Ruetsche, and Alberta Sbragia; Mr. Robert Fagley, Ms. Kristen Flanagan, Ms. Patricia Henry, Mr. Jason Morris, and Ms. Dorothy Shallenberger

Not Attending: Associate Dean W. Richard Howe, Professor Carson Chow, and Ms. Donna Yurko

1. Minutes of the Meeting Held on February 21, 2005

Dean Cooper presented the minutes from the February 21, 2005 meeting. Alberta Sbragia put forth a motion to accept the minutes. That motion was seconded by Associate Dean Steven Husted and carried unanimously.

2. Dean's Announcements

- **Thomas Metzger**, Associate Professor of Mathematics, died February 24, 2005, after a brief illness.

3. Review Draft Sections of Planning Document for FY 2006

Dean Cooper asked members of Council to look at two specific draft sections for the Planning Document. The

first draft section, the Diversity Statement, which was originally set to be a faculty statement that was later voted on, will also be sent to Chairs in a memo from Dean Cooper. Dean Cooper presented the draft memo for council members to review. Dean Cooper opened the floor for questions and concerns about the memo from members of Council.

Dean Cooper addressed the Core Messages draft section and again opened the floor for questions and concerns from members of Council.

4. Other Business

With no other business the meeting was adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

**A&S PLANNING AND BUDGETING
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**
THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2005 - 3:00 P.M.

Attending: Dean N. John Cooper (Chair); Associate Deans W. Richard Howe and James F. Knapp; Assistant Dean Michelle L. Amato; Professors Laura Ruetsche and Alberta Sbragia; Mr. Robert Fagley, Ms. Patricia Henry, Ms. Dorothy Shallenberger, and Ms. Donna Yurko

Not Attending: Associate Deans Steven Husted and Regina Schulte-Ladbeck; Assistant Dean Barbara L. Vattimo; Professors Daniel Berkowitz, Carson Chow, Stuart Hastings, and Delanie Jenkins; Ms. Kristen Flanagan and Mr. Jason Morris

1. Minutes of the Meeting Held on March 2, 2005

Dean Cooper presented the minutes from the March 2, 2005 meeting. Laura Ruetsche put forth a motion to accept the minutes. That motion was seconded by Robert Fagley and carried unanimously.

2. Dean's Announcements

Dean Cooper had nothing to report.

3. Review Draft Sections of Planning Document for FY 2006

Dean Cooper explained that the Core Messages discussed in previous Council meetings have been embedded into the text rather than being represented as topic sentences with bulleted points. A list of external fellowships, and a list of faculty, student, and staff honors, will probably be included in the document's appendices. Dean Cooper discussed with members of the Committee the external funding environment, Commonwealth funding, and benchmarking.

4. Moving Towards Multi-Year Graduate Student Packages in Strategic Humanities and Social Sciences Programs

Dean Cooper described the competitive pressures to move towards the use of multi-year graduate student packages in the humanities and social sciences, and reported that the Provost had agreed to provide incremental funding to convert current fellowship and TA resources in the Philosophy and History and Philosophy of Science departments into multi-year packages. The Committee agreed that this would be a good start.

5. Strengthening Nanoscience in A&S

Dean Cooper described research opportunities in nanoscience with Committee members, and reported that the Provost is discussing an Academic Initiative that would provide new positions in Physics and Astronomy and in Chemistry to take advantage of this scientific opportunity. The Committee supported this concept.

6. Other Business

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

**A&S GRADUATE COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 3, 2004**

Attendees: Erik Angner, Michele Belfort-Mihalyi, Lisa Brush, Bobby Chamberlain, Joanna Hastings Smolko, D. John Hillier, Zsuzsa Horvath, Steven Husted, Marcia Landy, Robert Walters, and Robert Youker. Not in attendance: Robert Hayden and Lewis Jacobson.

1. The September 20, 2004 minutes were reviewed and unanimously approved.
2. **Biological Sciences and School of Medicine Proposal.** All Arts and Sciences councils and all councils in the School of Medicine have approved the proposal. It has now been submitted to the Provost's Office and is on the agenda for the next meeting of the UCGS. The revisions requested by the Council were applied to the proposal before it was submitted.
3. **TA/TF Department Review.** The Council selected three departments for review of their training efforts: Biological Sciences, Hispanic Languages and Literatures, and Philosophy.

Biological Sciences Subcommittee: Professor John Hillier and Graduate Student Erik Angner.

Hispanic Languages and Literatures Subcommittee: Professor Marcia Landy and Graduate Student Zsuzsa Horvath.

Philosophy Subcommittee: Professor Lisa Brush and Graduate Student Robert Youker.

Husted explained that he and Assistant Dean Walters, along with the subcommittees, will attend two meetings, one with the faculty involved in training and one with the students. Following these meetings, the subcommittees will draft reports on their findings.

4. Dean's Announcements

- a. **Web Pages.** Traditionally, the Provost's Office provides an annual allocation to A&S to support materials for graduate programs, e.g. upgrade of Web pages, recruitment materials. Because of the upcoming NRC evaluation of graduate programs, Patricia Beeson, as Vice-Provost for Graduate Studies, has formed a team of specialists to work with departments across campus to upgrade and in some cases redesign Web pages. Because of this initiative, funds that would normally come directly to A&S are being retained by the Provost to provide the necessary resources. It is likely that this will also happen in AY06, because the upgrade effort will take at least two years to complete.
- b. **NRC evaluation of graduate programs** has been postponed for another year. It will now begin in September 2006 at the earliest. The announced reason for the delay is that the NRC has not received all of the funding needed to carry out the survey. This money is raised from foundations and from the federal government. Foundation support is there, but federal support is lacking.
- c. **GSR Tuition.** The university is changing its policy for the way tuition is paid for graduate student researchers (GSRs). The university policy is that if a student is a GSR, the university will pay tuition. Historically, the Arts and Sciences Graduate Office gets a tuition budget from the Chancellor's Office for TA/TF/GSR/Fellows. Over the last three years the grant support in the Arts and Sciences has risen by 30 percent; thus more students are being supported on GSRs but the A&S tuition budget has not increased to that same level. Two years ago we ran a deficit of \$200,000 due primarily to the number of GSRs. Last year we overspent \$500,000. Fortunately, the Provost's Office realized that we cannot keep doing this, especially if we are encouraging faculty to get more grants. This year, the Provost's Office will pay the GSR tuition, effective July 1, 2004. The A&S graduate tuition budget is to be reduced, but we have been assured that there will be sufficient funds to provide historic levels of support.

- d. **Doctoral Mentoring Award.** Associate Dean Husted is chair of the committee to design a process for making annual awards to faculty for doctoral mentoring. The awards of \$2,500 will be given to as many as four faculty members campus wide. The Provost approved these awards, which should be announced next spring. We are now in the process of putting out notices campus wide as well as to recent graduates and would appreciate this Council's recommendations.

5. Meeting adjourned.

**A&S GRADUATE COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES**
FEBRUARY 11, 2005

Attendees: Erik Angner, Michele Belfort-Mihalyi, Lisa Brush, Bobby Chamberlain, Joanna Hastings Smolko, Robert Hayden, D. John Hillier, Zsuzsa Horvath, Steven Husted, Lewis Jacobson, Robert Walters, and Robert Youker. Not in attendance: Marcia Landy.

1. The December 3, 2004 minutes were reviewed and unanimously approved.
2. The main agenda item was a proposal to create a PhD program in Computational Biology. Like the recently

approved programs in Biophysics and the Integrative Molecular Biology program (PIMB), this program would be offered jointly with the School of Medicine. This program differs with the others in three ways. First, as stated in the proposal, it would not be housed in any one Arts and Sciences department. This is because faculty members from a number of departments (Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Computer Science, Mathematics, Neuroscience, and Physics) have all played a role in developing the proposal. Second, first year support would not be provided on a 50:50 basis between the two schools. A&S will provide two fellowships, while SOM has committed five. Finally, this proposal calls for a significant amount of interaction with Carnegie Mellon University, including joint faculty committees and considerable student mobility between the two campuses.

Graham Hatfull attended the meeting and answered a variety of questions about the proposal. The Council had a number of concerns about the program.

The Council decided to table the proposal until issues such as coordination, explicit designation of responsibilities, time to degree, financial needs, prerequisites, advertising, and marketing are addressed.

3. Dean's Announcements: none.
4. Meeting adjourned.



**A&S GAZETTE
SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
OFFICE OF THE DEAN
917 CATHEDRAL OF LEARNING
PITTSBURGH, PA 15260**

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