

**College of Sciences (COS)  
Meeting of Dean's Executive Council  
4 May 2009**

***Present:***

**Dean** - George Perry

**Department Chairs** - Edwin Barea-Rodriguez, Alan Dutton, Waldek Gorski, Sandy Norman

**Associate Deans** - Raymond Baird, Craig Jordan

**Center/Institute/Program Directors** - Aaron Cassill, Joe Lazor, Ravi Sandhu

**Assistant Dean** - Garry Castellanos

**COS Undergraduate Advising Director** - Patti Gonzalez

**Assistant Department Chair, Biology** - Hans Heidner

**Guest Speakers** - Edward (Ted) Early, Peter Smith

**Summary Notes**

**Status of Annual Faculty Performance Appraisals**

Dr. Baird informed department chairs that it was important that they conclude their annual faculty performance appraisals as faculty would soon be departing and appraisals are required for merit consideration.

**Partnerships with Northrop Grumman**

Dr. Perry introduced Edward (Ted) Early, Ph.D. and Peter Smith, Ph.D. of Northrop Grumman Corporation (NGC). Northrop Grumman is a first tier defense company and involved with research development. Both individuals spoke during their PowerPoint presentation. Dr. Smith extended thanks for the long-standing relationship with Northrop Grumman and conveyed his company wants to continue to develop partnerships with UTSA. Dr. Smith indicated that NGC is a less familiar company and was having difficulty attracting individuals to work in Texas and they were now taking an approach of looking for individuals at their own doorstep.

Northrop Grumman is involved with research, providing information, and advising the government on the best strategy of an application. It is also involved with laser research and providing biological data for laser safety standards. Dr. Early stated that despite being a military research environment, publications are generated at NGC.

Northrop Grumman is committed to education. The company offers an educational assistance program and has an internship program with UTSA for all science backgrounds. Summer internships could be developed. Dr. Smith stated that representatives from his company will be able to attend student group meetings.

Garry mentioned the teaming agreement between the College of Sciences, UTSA and Northrop Grumman Information Technology Inc., a Northrop Grumman Company. He mentioned the possibility of developing an agreement that would allow using a Northrop Grumman secure computing facility in lieu of duplicating a similar facility at UTSA. This would be beneficial for UTSA's Institute for Cyber Security.

## **Strategic Plan, College of Sciences**

Dr. Perry informed the forum that a brochure would be developed from the strategic plan for the College of Sciences. A copy of the strategic plan was provided and he requested that administrators review the document and send any changes to him.

## **Professional Science Teaching Track**

Dr. Baird reported that he and Dr. Perry had a good meeting with Provost Frederick on the topic of the professional science and mathematics teaching track. Dr. Frederick gave his approval for the college to begin identifying faculty. Dr. Baird will be following up with department chairs for suggestions regarding faculty who might be good candidates. This teaching track will not be available for assistant professors.

## **Department Reviews**

Dr. Perry noted the handout on department reviews. Dr. Frederick is requesting that departments have periodic reviews. Three departments need to be scheduled. Dr. Barea-Rodriguez asked if there was a template. Dr. Gorski mentioned that the department was reviewed periodically by the American Chemical Society and he asked if this review would be sufficient. Dr. Perry will follow-up and e-mail department chairs information regarding reviews given to him by Dr. Frederick.

## **Communications from Laboratory Safety Officer**

Dr. Perry referenced two handouts from Wendy McCoy, Laboratory Safety Officer. She provided a listing of all required training courses for graduate students. She also sent an e-mail about complaints received regarding laboratory personnel wearing gloves in common areas. Department chairs were requested to follow up with laboratories in their areas.

## **New Faculty Orientation and Prerequisite Checking, Summer and Fall**

Barbara Smith, Executive Director of Advising, informed Patti that summer prerequisite checking is being turned off. This has been the practice for past summers. Faculty will have to check themselves. Patti also commented that there was a problem which resulted in prerequisite checking for fall being turned off for a few hours. Those students will eventually be dropped from these courses, probably after spring grades roll. Dr. Perry will request that this topic be discussed at a future meeting of Deans' Council.

## **New Business**

### **Travel**

Garry mentioned the advisories that had been issued about Influenza H1N1 (swine flu). The UTSA Police Department distributed information on the UT System Travel recommendations indicating that all non-essential travel to Mexico be suspended. Mr. Gribou, Executive Vice Provost, distributed an e-mail regarding UTSA study abroad and exchange programs in Mexico.

## **Research Opportunities**

Dr. Perry stated that he had attended a meeting of the associate vice presidents for research. Information on opportunities through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 was discussed. Dr. Tsin will send information to department chairs and directors of centers/institutes. There will be increased reports and monitoring with all grants that will be awarded through the ARRA. Report processing will be delegated to departments.

## **Equipment List**

Garry mentioned that he had received inputs from department chairs and directors of centers/institutes. He distributed copies of the consolidated equipment list inputs to department chairs and requested it be reviewed. Dr. Perry requested that administrators scrutinize the list and maintain a current list of equipment needs so that if funds become available unexpectedly we would be prepared to submit our requests.