Minutes of CST Collegial Assembly of October 8, 2012

Call to Order
The Assembly was called to order by Interim Dean Michael Klein at 2:07 PM

Approval of Minutes
The minutes of March 14, 2012 were approved.

Dean’s Report
Dean Klein noted that this was his 100th day as Interim Dean. He characterized the deanship of Hai-Lung Dai as a period of unprecedented hiring of tenured/tenure-track faculty, growth in sponsored research, increased enrollment, investment in advising and development, and expansion of undergraduate research. Despite the hiring of 42 faculty members, retirements and attrition have resulted in no overall increase, and hiring is expected to continue, with a target for the coming year of 8 hires. We are optimistic about the future under the leadership of Interim Provost Dai. Student enrollment remains high, with 3647 undergraduates, 325 graduates. The new building is under way, with foundation pouring expected to start October 11. Progress is being recorded by webcams. The new building provides a rare opportunity to hire stellar faculty, with focus on chemical biology and materials science. Also needed are endowed chairs, fellowship, studentships, and increased undergraduate research. CST ranks third among Temple schools/colleges in research funding, which was $7.1M in 2007, $15.5M in 2012, a slight drop from 2011 because of the end of ARRA funding. CST was assigned a budget cut of $1.1M for FY13, but nevertheless has permission to hire faculty. The upcoming award dates for Nobel prizes (Oct. 8 for physiology/medicine, Oct. 9 for physics, Oc. 10 for chemistry) focus attention on the pursuit of excellence. While a university priority is the reduction of undergraduate student debt through a zero increase in tuition, CST’s focus will be on increasing excellence. This does not mean that undergraduate affairs will not be supported, but that priority will be on supporting the high end of science in hiring, graduate education, and research.

Undergraduate Committee
Four motions from the Undergraduate Committee were presented for the approval of the Assembly. Supporting documents were available at http://www.temple.edu/cst/facultystaff/assembly.html

Motion 1: The Collegial Assembly of the College of Science and Technology approves the restructuring of the B.A. in Computer Science program as specified in the documents found at the above link.

Associate Dean M. Luehrmann explained that the current program required CIS 3223 but not its prerequisite CIS 2166. The motion is to require CIS 2166 instead of CIS 3223.

The motion PASSED.
Motion 2: The Collegial Assembly of the College of Science and Technology approves the restructuring of the B.S. in Math & Computer Science with Teaching program as specified in the documents found at the above link. Associate Dean M. Luehrmann explained that, as in Motion 1, the current program required CIS 3223 but not its prerequisite CIS 2166. The motion is to require CIS 2166 instead of CIS 3223. Also, the proposal removes CIS 4397 and 4398 as option for the capstone course, so that all students will take Math 4098 as capstone. CIS 3207 is removed from the requirements, allowing students 7 free credits within the total of 124 required for the degree.

The motion PASSED.

Motion 3: The Collegial Assembly of the College of Science and Technology approves the restructuring of the B.S. in Math & Computer Science program as specified in the documents found at the above link. Associate Dean M. Luehrmann explained that the motion changes the requirements so that students intending to take the Math capstone will take Math 3137 and 3138, while those intending to take the CIS capstone will take CIS 3238.

The motion PASSED.

Motion 4: The Collegial Assembly of the College of Science and Technology approves the restructuring of the B.S. in Applied Mathematics program as specified in the documents found at the above link. Associate Dean M. Luehrmann explained that the motion removes an unintended impossible prerequisite sequence in the requirements, by removing one Math elective and replacing it with Math 2196.

The motion PASSED.

Faculty Senate Steering Committee report
J. Korsh, CST representative to the FSSC, solicited volunteers for the Provost Search Committee, and for standing committees of the Senate, drew attention to the upcoming Faculty Senate of October 9, at which Provost Dai would be present for “Dialogue with Dai,” and at which Senior Vice Provost Jones would discuss issues of student retention.

M. Luehrmann provided an overview on the Retention Project, under way, would use an instrument being created in CST to identify students at high academic risk, so that advising units could intervene to improve retention. The Critical Paths/Milestones project will identify 8-semester pathways to degree completion within four years, with “milestones” representing key course to demonstrate progress toward degree completion, or to flag students not making progress, for coordinated intervention.

Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 2:58 PM.