Temple University
College of Science and Technology
Board of Visitors Meeting Minutes
Friday, October 13, 2017

Board attendees

Magid Abou-Gharbia
Joseph Allegra
Barry Arkles
Paul Curcillo
Stanley Lefkowitz
Madeleine Joullie
Jay Novik
Aileen Rothbard
Jay Satz
Seda Tarzian

Staff attendees

Gregory Fornia, CST Director of Communications
Grace Hershman, CST Associate Vice Dean, Post Baccalaureate Programs in Health Science
Donald Kirkwood, Assistant Dean, Institutional Advancement, Fox School
Michael L. Klein, FRS, CST Dean
Michael Lawlor, CST Assistant Dean for Undergraduate Affairs
Robert Levis, CST Senior Associate Dean
Graham Smialowski, CST Major Gift Officer
Susan Varnum, CST Associate Dean for Science Education
Evelyn Vleck, CST Assistant Dean for Undergraduate Affairs
Slobodan Vucetic, Chair, Computer & Information Sciences Department
Gregory Wacker, CST Assistant Dean, Finance and Administration

The meeting was called to order at 8:56AM by Dean Michael L. Klein, FRS.

Special Reports
State of the college – Michael Klein
Pre-Health Post-Baccalaureate program – Grace Hershman
Professional Science Master’s and STEM update – Susan Varnum
Undergraduate program changes – Michael Lawlor and Evelyn Vleck
CST finance – Greg Wacker
Research – Robert Levis
Development and alumni affairs – Donald Kirkwood
CIS overview and research – Slobodan Vucetic (not included in minutes)

Presentations for special reports are available at cst.temple.edu/BOV
State of the college

Michael L. Klein, FRS

Dean Klein presented an overview of CST’s accomplishments for the previous year, which he noted are chronicled in the latest edition of Outlook magazine. Dean Klein stated that one highlight was presenting C.N.R. Rao, FRS with an honorary degree. The university will allow CST to present an honorary degree every three years.

CST’s metrics are strong, particularly in the areas of student enrollment and research.

Applications to Temple are up, even when the number of college-age students in the Philadelphia region is declining. Young people are selecting Temple as an option, when just a few years ago these same students would not have.

Temple University is ranked #21 (at the time) for research in Webometrics, and #85 as measured by other aspects of a university, although Temple’s web presence is low. Eight of Temple’s top fifteen researchers are CST faculty. Dean Klein stated that “CST has a stellar group of researchers” and “the college is internationally competitive.”

Dean Klein responded to a Board member’s question by stating that CST has three National Academy members, himself, John Perdew and Masatoshi Nei. There are, approximately, a total of six National Academy members at Temple University.

Several Board members discussed Temple’s poor showing in other rankings, particularly the Wall Street Journal. Temple’s poor web site and overall web presence were cited as contributing factors. Dean Klein stated that the university is working to improve its web site and to advertise more on the web. Staff mentioned that the college is working to improve its web-based graduate application.

Several Board members mentioned difficulties in navigating the Temple University web site.

Pre-Health Post-Baccalaureate

Grace Hershman

Staff provided an overview of progress for the Pre-Health Post-Baccalaureate program, which received approximately 350 applications this year. Fifty-nine students have matriculated, with about half being from Temple. About 20 percent are from disadvantaged
groups. These are students who do well in the classroom, but maybe not in standardized tests.

**Professional Science Master’s degree, TUteach and STEM programs**  
*Susan Varnum*

Staff presented an overview of PSM, TUteach and STEM programs. A Board member asked if STEM certification is part of TUteach. Staff replied “It is.”

**CST finances**  
*Gregory Wacker*

Staff presented an overview of CST's budget. Board members asked many questions regarding the ability of the college to ‘bank’ a surplus through increased research grants or fundraising. Under Temple’s budget model, this is difficult because of allocated costs imposed by the university.

Board members discussed how the Temple model differs from “business.” Staff explained the RCM budget model and the university’s “taxes” on CST. Even with differential tuition for CST, when a student from another college takes a CST course, the college does not get the full tuition.

A Board member asked if CST takes in patent revenue. Staff replied “Yes,” but the overall amount for Temple is approximately $12 million.

A Board member asked if Temple University had ever “given CST money?” Staff responded “No.” A Board member asked if there was a better budget model. Staff responded “No.”

**Research overview**  
*Robert Levis*

Research continues to do well at CST, with increases across most departments. A Board member asked if every tenure-track faculty member is the financial responsibility of the college. Staff replied “Yes.”

**Development and alumni affairs**  
*Donald Kirkwood*

Staff discussed the process for determining funding priorities. What is CST’s vision for the future? Opportunities for fundraising include students, faculty, capital projects, and big ideas. A Board members suggested scholarships for underprivileged students. Other ideas include online education, Undergraduate Research Program or other forms of student aid.
Another Board member suggested the Temple Brain Institute as a big idea. Other big idea suggestions were heterostructure devices and portable servers for mobile devices.

One Board member noted that the proposed professorship named for Hazel Tomlinson was a “big idea” that was not fully embraced by Institutional Advancement.

Staff discussed the expectations for philanthropy for Board members. Other expectations discussed were Board members providing leads to development staff; being ambassadors for CST; and being part of the Temple brand.

One Board member suggested adding 4-5 members to expand and diversify the group.

March 23 or April 20, 2018 were suggested for the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned by Dean Michael L. Klein, FRS at 12:05PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory Fornia
Director of Communications