

ACADEMIC PLANNING COMMITTEE
APPROVED MINUTES
September 24, 2003

Members Present

Lloyd Ambrosius
Sarah B Campbell
Richard Edwards
Matthew C Hansen
Jeffrey F Keown

Richard M Kettler
Marjorie J Kostelnik
Ronald E Lee
Derrel L Martin
Cynthia H Milligan

Nancy Mitchell
William J Nunez
Barry T Rosson
James L Van Etten

Members Absent

John C Owens

Prem Paul

Others Present

John E Bernthal, Chair & Professor, Special Education & Communication Disorders, and Director,
Barkley Memorial Center

T. Newell Decker, Professor, Special Education & Communication Disorders, and Interim Associate
Dean, Graduate Studies

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. No minutes were ready for approval. Rosson moved to the second item on the agenda.

Programs of Excellence (PoE) pre-proposals for funding

Edwards distributed a tentative list of programs expected to submit pre-proposals for funding. [Copy is attached to the permanent record.] October 1 is the deadline for submission of pre-proposals. He expressed regret that he would not be available to talk to APC on that date.

He requested a new approach to evaluating the next round of proposals. A blind review process was used for last year's pre-proposals, in contrast with the interactive process being used this year. This year's pre-proposals were crafted to fit with ongoing programs. Each proposal should be evaluated in the context of other activities at the University. Deans were asked to submit only pre-proposals they considered worthy of their own colleges' commitment.

Edwards asked that APC question the need for each grant. There is a total of \$1.5 million available. In most cases the grant limit would be \$250,000, so six grants could be funded. Funding would be renewable for five years, after which the programs will be reviewed. If they meet expectations, funding would be extended. When PoE funds finance tenure-line faculty, the funding is permanent.

Rosson asked how soon Edwards expects APC to make recommendations on the pre-proposals, noting that full proposals are due November 1. Edwards said Academic Affairs would forward pre-proposals to APC as soon as they arrive. He wanted APC to review them at the October 8 meeting.

Martin asked who would review the full proposals. Edwards said he intended for APC to review them as well as the pre-proposals. The full proposals are limited to eight pages and will have a more limited scope than those in the previous round. Full proposals will serve to flesh out the pre-proposals and address any questions that come up during APC's initial review.

Rosson told Edwards that APC would try to have recommendations on the pre-proposals to him following the October 8 meeting. Edwards said that he would make himself available to answer any questions APC might have about the pre-proposals. Rosson said APC's recommendations on the budget were due on October 15. APC would need to focus primarily on budget cuts at the meetings on October 1 and October 8. He said he might call a special meeting on October 15 to look at the pre-proposals if they must be reviewed before October 22.

Proposal for Doctorate in Audiology

John Bernthal and Newell Decker were present to answer questions. Keown said he and Lee met to discuss the proposal. They presented Bernthal and Decker a list of questions and had received satisfactory responses. The subcommittee recommended that APC endorse the proposal. Their report was distributed to APC prior to the meeting. APC members expressed favor with cooperative efforts between the audiology program and Boys and Girls Town National Research Hospital. After further discussion, Rosson thanked Bernthal and Decker for their participation and excused them from the meeting.

Motion was made and seconded by the subcommittee members in their report. APC unanimously voted to endorse the proposal. [Edwards left.]

Discussion of budget reduction proposals

Rosson called a closed session. There was discussion of previous recommendations on the current round of budget cuts. Kramer was asked to redistribute the letter of recommendation from Craig Eckhardt to the Chancellor dated July 31, 2003. After discussion the following motions were made:

Motion was made by Kettler and seconded by Ambrosius to endorse the Chancellor's proposal to downsize the Engineering Extension Service in accordance with the figures provided by the Chancellor. The motion passed without dissent.

Motion was made by Lee and seconded by Martin to endorse the Chancellor's proposal to eliminate two Coordinator positions in the office of the Dean of Architecture in accordance with the figures provided by the Chancellor. The motion passed without dissent.

Reductions to Education and Human Sciences (formerly Human Resources and Family Sciences) programs in Omaha were discussed. Kostelnik recused herself from participation in the discussion and from voting, but offered to answer questions about any EHS cuts. She reminded APC that other deans had been invited to answer questions in closed sessions about their colleges' proposed cuts. She said she would not be able to attend the next APC meeting.

In response to questions, Kostelnik said that no other EHS cut of the required amount, horizontal or vertical, would have spared tenured and tenure-track faculty. She outlined plans to continue some of the course offerings in Omaha. Discussion of the EHS budget reductions continued until the meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lona Kramer, Coordinator