# **Department Faculty Meeting**

**November 3, 2015**

**Noon – 1:20 Gould 208J**

# **Agenda items**

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| 12:00— 12:05 | **Vote:** To approve 10/20/15 meeting minutes | Campbell |
| 12:05 — 12:25 | **Vote**: To appoint Marty Curry, Part Time Lecturer | Campbell |
| 12:25 — 12:45 | **Update: UDP Curriculum Committee** – overview of agenda for the year | Abramson |
| 12:45 — 1:20 | **Updates:** Other business | Campbell/others |
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**Present**: Christopher Campbell, Larissa Maziak, Sofia Dermisi, Christine Bae, Bob Mugerauer, Bob Freitag, Rachel Berney, Don Miller, Manish Chalana, Dan Abramson, Qing Shen, Branden Born, Marina Alberti, Himanshu Grover

PSA Rep: Jacob Brett CEP Rep: Mihai Baltatescu

**Vote:** To approve 10/20/15 meeting minutes

Sofia has corrections regarding Pat McCabe’s CV: *This was amended Nov 6*

Move to approve

Seconded

Approve 9 No 0 Abstain 0

**Vote** to re-appoint Marty Curry as a Part Time Lecturer

Moved to approve

Seconded with appreciation!!!!

Approve 9 No 0 Abstain 0

**Curriculum Committee Updates**

Dan is currently chair but the members will rotate between Branden, Christine and Himanshu. Kelly and Diana are also participating on the committee.

The committee is looking for a MUP representative.

Committee meets every Tuesday at 1:30 in Gould 410.

**Curriculum Committee Agenda Items for the Year**

* Coordinate curriculum with the strategic plan
* Revise our recent course change submissions and send back to the college council
* Review studio proposals as a committee
* Approve a new course for the minor that would be taught by Jim Diers and Richard Conlin. This could be an additional course available to count toward the UDP minor (400 level)
* Wrap up the UDP minor in general and finalize the 3rd core requirement
* Look more closely at diversity in the curriculum beyond the course that Bob and Manish teach

**Curriculum Committee: Current Specialization Requirements VS. Possible New Cluster System?**

Integrated with looking at the strategic plan, should the department engage in some rethinking of the specializations? One idea is to eliminate specialization requirements; instead we would offer cluster “specializations” based on student interests in particular topics or research. Students would choose their own combination of land use, environmental planning etc. so they can pick and choose courses based on their interests rather than being confined to the more limited requirements of specialization

This conversation began when Christopher asked the CC to look at whether some/all or all of the current specializations needed updating given recent faculty changes and emerging interests among students and faculty. Asking this question led to a broader conversation among committee members about the desirability of specializations altogether

The committee notes that it is at the very beginning of its examination of this issue, and that it has only met once. There are many questions that need to be answered, and lots of discussion, before it brings any recommendation or proposal to the faculty for a full faculty discussion.

**Faculty Response to Curriculum Committee “Cluster” idea:**

Is it possible to do both; specialization and cluster??

From an outside perspective…you would need to have clarity

Will this model be acceptable to PAB?

Will some of the clusters be thinner than others?

You could have the shadows of the old specializations to use as template which students could individualize to fit their particular interests.

There’s also a big resilience movement. Can we look at that area as well?

There is also a large group that are especially interested in Transportation

Since Anne has now retire and there is still a huge interest in non-motorized transportation, do we need to think of that for next hire?

Our specializations overall make sense. Maybe there are small changes to make. The requirements are historical so that is something to look at.

It is time, as a faculty to think about whether we should be looking at new and emerging areas of focus, including urban data and informatics.

**Marina announces a grant she is working on**

Marina is submitting a proposal for a large NRT (National Science Foundation Research Traineeship) grant from the NSF.

* Normally NRT’s are for PhD students, but this will be funding a program for masters students
* Will provide advanced training in urban science and informatics
* Not only for our programs but programs across US
* This grant is for STEM based programs which planning is not, but NSF will allow a submission

As an aside, why couldn’t planning be considered as a STEM program and not just policy? There is an opportunity to engage science and policy and be the bridge between the two.

**RE: Urban @UW**

There was recently a research, collaboration session which involved faculty and researchers across campus and disciplines and over all it was very positive.

**ACSP Conference in Houston**

Good attendance by faculty and both current and former PhD students

One suggestion for next year is to host a party for UW students, alumni, and friends.

ACSP is looking at marketing the planning profession to entice more applicants to planning programs. They will be requesting data on all planning applicants to help with this process.

What does it take to elevate planning? Can we write a white paper together?

**Departmental Updates**

CEP turns 21 party this Saturday!!!

Christopher met with the PAB board at the ACSP conference. We should receive the final ruling in a couple of weeks.

Christopher continues to work on the strategic plan. He is looking to the Diversity Committee to help incorporate a more robust diversity plan to the over all strategic plan.

Christopher also continues to work on the fundraising plan for the department. Faculty requested that if John or Edgar attend a faculty meeting to discuss the college and University’s overall fund raising plan.

Our agenda is much more open this year, so if you have something you feel we should be discussing please let Christopher know.

Meeting adjourned: 1:20pm.