

iSchool Assembly Minutes

Friday, October 2, 2015 10:00-12:00 noon
Hornbake Library Building 2119

Attendance: Brian Butler, Niklas Elmquist, Tetyana Bezbabna, Jen Golbeck, Wendy Simmons, Bet St. Jean, Tricia Donovan, Jeff Waters, Larry Liff, June Ahn, Andrea Wiggins, Katie Shilton, Leah Findlater, Ping Wang, Paul Jaeger, Michael Kurtz, Kathy Weaver, Yla Tausczik, Kanti Srikantaiah, Fernando Marciano, Kathleen Fominaya, Ricky Punzalan (acting as secretary), Mega Subramaniam, Hussain Abbas, Katy Lawley, Dave Baugh, Carlea Holl-Jensen, Joanne Briscoe, Ursula Gorham, Susan Winter, Jyothi Vinjumur, Carol Boston, Kari Kraus, Vedat Diker, Vanessa Frias-Martinez, Marshini Chetty, Doug Oard, Lindsay Sarin, Richard Marciano, Ken Hager, Boney Yeldho, Tim Summers, Xu Meng, Jenny Preece

Absent: Maggie Rodriguez, John Bertot (sabbatical), Diane Barlow, Ann Weeks, Jessica Vitak

Call to Order: Michael called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Assembly Discussion Items (see supplementary documents online):

1. *ADVANCE Program presentation.* Professor Sarah Oates (soates@umd.edu), the iSchool's representative in the ADVANCE Program, provided a general overview of this endeavor as well as the results of the iSchool's climate survey.

The ADVANCE Program is tailored to support women and minorities in the University, mainly focusing on concerns regarding staff retention. Similar programs exist in other Big 10 Universities. It is now on its sixth year. The ADVANCE Program offers several opportunities such as workshops, providing support on issues facing minorities and women and advocate for them.

The highlights of the survey are as follows:

- 74% response rate, n=17
- iSchool is a "happy" college based on the survey
- vibrant intellectual culture
- satisfaction with mentorship
- people talk to each other a lot
- feeling valued in the College
- institutional support to advance careers
- high report of career empowerment
- perception of fairness in the tenure and promotion process
- women appear more comfortable while men feel less
- one comment on microaggression

- low level of satisfaction with diversity on campus
- less than half perceive they have support to gain learning
- faculty are overwhelmed by service
- Frustration and disappointment in students
- Relatively high number of faculty intend to leave the University in two years

Brian Butler noted that diversity committee had looked at the survey. Yla Tausczik asked a question regarding any future plans to conduct a follow up study on retention to which Paul Jaeger responded by saying yes. He further indicated that the diversity committee will do a follow up survey, including focus groups. Brian Butler emphasized that the survey did not find anything systemic and that he is interested in finding out more on how the iSchool can help solve some problems such as child care, which is also an issue when recruiting doctoral students because potential doctoral students also ask about child care and accessibility.

2. *Academic Program Enrollment Update (2015-2016)*. Joanne Briscoe presented data on Fall 2015 enrollment. The iSchool's total number of *new* students enrolled is 194 and the total number of students is 443. She also provided a breakdown of the number by program (Ph.D., LIS, Online, MIM, HCI, and HiLS, which was suspended for Fall 2015)
3. *iSchool Financial Report (2014-2015)*. Brian Butler presented the report. He noted that the College is working to get understandable description of what happened in the past. He proceeded to present a slide mapping a structure for analyzing the financial record of the College. His slide presentation containing details of the financial report (such as expenses and revenues) will be made available online. Doug Oard asked Brian to clarify the difference between staff categorized under Academic programs (which costs 2.75 million vs. Research and Research Support which costs 4.88 million). Brian responded by giving an example of Tetyana/Maggie being under Academic programs vs. Mary Ramos being under Research and Research Support.
4. *Dean's Update*. Brian Butler provided the following updates:
 - Name a chair update
 - College advisory committee structure created
 - Hiring
 - Desktop support
 - System admin
 - Grad advisor
 - Grad assistants (at least 2)
 - Tenure track (2 positions)
 - Professional track (at least 1)

- Facilities
 - 2nd/4th upgrade – new signs and signages, mini directories per floor in the stairwell
 - New space – Hornbake 0211
- 5. Announcements
 - a. Chair requested timely arrival and additional chairs to avoid unnecessary disruptions.

APT meeting follows the Assembly.

Assembly adjourned at 11:02 am.

Lunch will be provided.