Minutes -- CSM Senate Meeting

Date: Monday, December 14th, 2015
Time: 2:30pm - 4:00pm
Location: CSM Dean's Office Conference Room

Members in attendance:
Catalin Zara, Mathematics, Chair
Chandra S. Yelleswarapu (for Rahul Kulkarni), Physics
Manickam Sugumaran, Biology
Michelle Foster, Chemistry
Meng Zhou, SfE
Ping Chen, Engineering
Wei Ding, Computer Science

Others in attendance:
Andrew Groovsky, Dean, CSM
Alan Christian, Environmental Studies Program Director

The meeting was called to order at 2:35 pm.

1. Approval of the November 16, 2015 meeting minutes.
   A motion to approve the November 16, 2015 meeting minutes was seconded and approved unanimously.

2. Announcements

   - Dean Groovsky provided an update about the rehab plan options. Faculty in attendance offered their own opinions and asked questions. There is uncertainty about which of the 3 options or some revised option will be adopted.
   - Two new interdisciplinary Ph.D. programs (Integrative Biosciences & Computational Sciences) that have been developed in CSM were approved by the Board of Trustees and are now being sent to the Board of Higher Education.

3. New business

   3a. Addition of the BA in Environmental Studies and Sustainability (ESS-BA) degree, Phase 2 proposal.

   Motion: To pre-approve the addition of BA in Environmental Studies and Sustainability (ESS-BA) degree.

   Rationale: The development of the Environmental Studies and Sustainability (ESS) BA will strengthen SFE's mission of generating and activating knowledge to solve linked watershed and
coastal marine environmental problems. The ESS-BA fits perfectly within the mission and values of the University of Massachusetts Boston and the School for the Environment (SFE). The ESS-BA touches on all seven of the values: Inquiry, Creativity and Discovery, Transformation, Diversity and Inclusion, Engagement, Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability, Economic and Cultural Development, and its urban commitment. This is illustrated by the synergistic activities with collaborating units outside of the SFE and the College of Science and Mathematics.

Alan Christian, School of the Environment presented how the ESS-BA would fit in. A discussion followed and feed-back was provided. The proposal was sent to the Major, Honors, and Special Programs Committee and will be reviewed by the CSM Senate following the MHSP recommendation.

3b. **Addition of ENVSCI 451 - Coastal Systems of Sergipe, Brazil**

**Motion:** To pre-approve the addition of ENVSCI451 - Coastal Systems of Sergipe, Brazil.

**Rationale:** The School for the Environment is continually revising and evaluating courses associated with the School's curriculum. ENVSCI 451 represents the first of its kind as a research-focused study abroad course taught by the School's faculty in partnership with a host university; the Universidades Terradentes in Aracaju, Sergipe, Brazil. ENVSCI 451 will directly support the Schools undergraduate tracks in Earth and Hydrological Sciences and Marine Sciences. Further, ENVSCI will offer undergraduate students a chance to conduct international research on topics that are globally relevant; be provided the opportunity to experience the culture of another country, including the policies, government, societal views and culture of coastal northeast Brazil.

The CSM Senate conditionally pre-approved the course, pending the following changes: (1) adding prerequisites equivalent to junior standing at UMB and approval from course instructor, (2) changing the number of credits to 3.

Items 3c and 3d were considered together.

3c. **Revision of ENGIN 352 - Semiconductor Device Design, Simulation and Fabrication. Change in course number to ENGIN 451.**

**Motion:** To pre-approve the revision of ENGIN 352: change in course number to ENGIN 452.

**Rationale:** This course is an EE elective intended for seniors, a 400 course number is more appropriate and easier for advising purposes.

3d. **Revision of ENGIN 371 - RF/Microwave Circuits. Change in number to ENGIN 471.**

**Motion:** To pre-approve the revision of ENGIN 371: change in course number to ENGIN 471.

**Rationale:** This course is an EE elective intended for seniors, a 400 course number is more appropriate and easier for advising purposes.

The CSM Senate pre-approved the course revisions - changes in course numbers. The proposals will be sent to the AAC.

3e. **CSM governance documents and procedures.**

A discussion of the by-laws of the College of Science and Mathematics was initiated and will continue at future meetings.

4. **Other business**

There were no other business items.
5. Adjourn
   The meeting adjourned at 3:55pm.