Chairs/Directors Committee Meeting  
December 9, 2014  
Minutes

Present: Joe Belch, Janie Chang, Dennis Cradit, Tita Gray, Annette Easton, David Ely, Gary Grudnitski, Davette Kawachi, Kathy Krentler, Larry Rhyne, Mehdi Salehizadeh

1. MS and/or BS Degree Program in Data Science (Janie Chang)

   The Math department is recruiting other departments to join in an exploration of new degree programs in data science. These interdisciplinary programs often supplement core coursework in math and computer science with track courses in applied fields. The goal is to produce graduates with the skills to derive meaningful information from huge datasets. The expectation is that faculty from many disciplines, including business, will want to become involved. The next meeting of this ad hoc group will be held in early January. UC Berkeley’s program may serve as a useful example (http://datascience.berkeley.edu/).

2. Faculty Assigned Time for Research - AY 2015-16

   The committee worked on updating the College policy on assigned time. A chairs/directors meeting on December 16 will be dedicated to the completion of this task.

3. Office Staffing

   On campus workdays between the semesters, all College/Department offices should remain open with at least skeleton staffing.

4. Interim Associate Dean’s Report

   The Senate approved a change to the academic calendar earlier this month. The last day of summer 2015 term (day grades are due) was moved from August 17 to August 18. The first day of fall semester was moved from August 18 to August 19. The first day of classes is unchanged (August 24).

   The Student Research Symposium is scheduled on March 6 and 7, 2015. Faculty should encourage their students to participate. Research is defined in a broad way such that it can involve primary research, secondary research, observational research, business plans, and consulting projects. Under this definition, business students engage in research. Last year, only two business students participated in the symposium. We should work to improve participation.

   A new university policy on accessible syllabi requires that course syllabi be uploaded, in an accessible electronic format, to the SDSU Syllabus Collection. Efforts are being made to create a template that CBA faculty could use to shorten the process of building an accessible document.