COBA Steering Committee Meeting
March 11, 2005

Minutes

Present: Jim Beatty
Swaminathan Badrinath
Bill Baker
Chee Chow
Fred Raafat
Massoud Saghafi
Gail Naughton
Jim Lackritz

Absent: None

Guests: Gangaram Singh
Gary Grudnitski
Bob Capettini

1. Jim Beatty, Chair, called the meeting of the Steering Committee to order at 1:00pm on March 11, 2005, in the Dean’s Conference Room.

2. The minutes of the February 25, 2005, meeting were moved, seconded, and approved (unanimously).

3. The meeting agenda for March 11, 2005, was reviewed and approved.

4. The Committee discussed progress regarding the room being designed for retired faculty. A proposal to Tony Fulton at Physical Plant is in process. The Committee is expecting a budget and timeline to be completed within several weeks. The timeframe for completion is uncertain, with the end of the semester the best guess scenario at this time.

5. Two policy changes regarding the voting role of ex officio committee members were discussed.

   (a) The first policy issue addressed the voting role of ex officio members across all College of Business Administration committees. Two alternatives introduced by Fred Raafat were discussed. The first stipulated that all ex officio members would be non-voting members on all committees. The second left the voting privilege decision up to the discretion of each College committee. Issues of flexibility versus efficiency were discussed. There were also concerns that some committee members may feel intimidated
to vote against giving voting rights to more senior/powerful ex officio members. The first alternative was moved, seconded, and approved by a 5-0 vote with one abstention.

(b) The second policy issue addressed the specific role of the Dean on future Associate Dean Search committees. The following addition to the College’s Policy File was moved: “After the election of a chair, the Dean is no longer a member of the committee. She/he may be invited, at the discretion of the committee, to attend meetings and offer input.” The motion was seconded, discussed, and passed unanimously.

(c) These proposed Policy File changes will be presented to the College of Business Administration faculty in ballot form near the end of the semester for consideration and vote.

6. A “Preliminary Report on CBA Governance,” authored by Professor Carol Venable, was distributed to the committee. Jim Lackritz will follow-up on the report as a part of his strategic planning process responsibilities.

7. Gangaram Singh was invited to meet with the Steering Committee in his new role as co-director of CIBER. Gangaram reported on the progress of a special committee to study the International Business-College of Business Administration interface. He noted that IB has been scrutinized regarding a research agenda and perceived unclear ties with the CBA. He believes there is a high level of interest in IB in the CBA, but the absence of a systematic means for business faculty engagement presents an obstacle for progress. He hopes to facilitate a strong IB research agenda among CBA faculty, a clear link between the goals of IB and the CBA, and an improvement in communication between the two programs. As a beginning, he suggested that an external speaker program, an improved review process for working papers, and the linking of grant receipt-to-results oriented deliverables are necessary to achieve these ends.

8. Gary Grudnitski was invited to meet with the Steering Committee in his role as Chair of the Undergraduate Committee. He reported on the relationship between HTM and the CBA. He noted a perceived distinction between the relationships between IB and CBA relative to HTM and CBA. The perception is that IB desires to build a strong relationship with the CBA, while such a perception is not clear regarding HTM. The potential importance and opportunities for graduate programs in IB and HTM was briefly discussed. Jim Lackritz strongly recommended that both IB and HTM relationships be made a priority for future discussion.

9. Massoud suggested to Gary that all undergraduate program proposals should be approved by the affected department’s full faculty before going
to the Undergraduate Committee. Gary stated that he had no authority to make such a change. He noted that current policy requires only the signature of the chair of the affected department.

10. Badri and Bob Capettini reported on the progress of an ad hoc committee assigned the task of relaying concerns regarding the long term health and effectiveness of the CBA to the central administration. The discussion focused on CBA student-faculty ratios that are 25-50% above SDSU averages and CBA faculty salaries that are in the lowest decile of AACSB accredited schools. It was recommended that the report be previewed by Mike Hergert and Allan Bailey. It was also suggested that they and Gail attend the meeting of the committee with the central administration. The final composition of the group has not been finalized. The meeting time will be set after spring break. Gail believes that a positive outcome is more likely with faculty lines than with salaries.

11. Jim Lackritz reported on the progress of the strategic planning process. Preliminary reports from the four task forces are due on March 21, 2005. The committee assigned the responsibility of writing the plan includes Jim, Gail, Deb Bertram, David Ely, Mickey Belch, and Bill Baker. The plan is due the first week in May 2005. Jim expressed gratitude to the task forces for their efforts to date.

12. The next meeting of Steering Committee is April 8, 2005, at 1:00pm.

13. The meeting was adjourned at 3:00pm.