

Neuroscience Faculty Advisory Committee
Meeting Agenda
March 16, 2018

Meeting was called to order at 10:03 am

1. Graduate Student Recruiting Update

Dr. Michelle Mazei-Robison contacted Dr. Greg Swain, the graduate program director, for an update on graduate recruiting. To date, there has been three student who have accepted their admission and two students have declined admission. They have until April 15th to consider their admission.

Dr. Galligan mentioned as more time passes it is less likely the remaining students will accept their admission to the program. It may be time to consider going to the waitlist to admit those students. Marc indicated that MSU was Brandon Johnson's first choice, however he accepted admission to Temple University.

Marie Doyle inquired if there was a target number of students to admit to the program. Jim replied that he would like more than 3 students.

2. By-laws update (Galligan)

Dr. Galligan sent out a copy of the revised by-laws two days prior to the meeting. The main changes the College requested were procedural changes. Thus, procedures were added to the bylaws. If you change a procedure, it does not require a vote by the faculty at large, unlike a change to the bylaws.

Dr. Alexa Veenema sent out an email regarding seven items in the bylaws requesting clarification for items.

Under section 6.1 – Neuroscience Program faculty meetings minutes will be sent out to all NSP faculty.

Under section 7.2.11 – Dr. Veenema inquired as to why there was no mention in this section that FAC will have a graduate student representative, when there is a representative. Dr. Galligan mentioned it was an oversight and thanks Alexa for noticing the oversight.

Under section 7.2.1.1 not mentioning the student representative, there was no mention of FAC having at least one representative from Grand Rapids. Dr. Galligan recalled that it is mentioned for GAC but not FAC since it wasn't necessary to indicate but we would always have one up for election. Dr. Caryl Sortwell recalled differently, she though Grand Rapids would always have representation. Dr. Mazei-Robison recommended language be added to reflect the FAC representative. Dr. Kyle Miller felt that the composition of FAC was more a procedural item rather than a change to the bylaws. Dr. Marc Breedlove inquired if there would be two election to ensure that there was at least one representative from Grand Rapids since the election of individuals cannot guarantee representation from Grand Rapids. In

addition, there was request what Rosenberg chair mean. Dr. Breedlove indicated he was Rosenberg chair.

Under section 7.2.3.2, minutes are taken from FAC meetings and will be available via the website as well as emailed out to faculty.

Under section 7.3.1.1, there is mention of a T32 director but there is no mention anywhere else in the bylaws. Does there need to be a description here. Since the T32 grant was not renewed, we do not have a T32 grant at the present time, however the T32 grant director can vary thus there is no need to name a specific person without having to revise the bylaws

Under section 7.3.2.3 – there is no information who decides which graduate student applicants are selected for an on-site interview. GAC reviews and decides what graduate student applications will be invited, as well the recommendations for admission. There is a request for further transparency from GAC regarding the application process and recommendations.

Marc made an addition bylaw request in regards to section 7.4.3, undergraduate affairs. It states that it should meet however there has been no effort to have a meeting this academic year. There has been difficulty in getting individual to agree to commit to serve on the undergraduate affairs.

3. Election of FAC member (Mazei-Robison)

With Cheryl Sisk being appointed interim dean, she resigned from FAC. As a result, FAC is down one member. Dr. Mazei-Robison inquired if a special election to replace Cheryl should be held or should we wait until late April when there will be an election to replace Dr. Miller, who will be cycling off as he has fulfilled his commitment.

There was a consensus that elections to replace Kyle and Cheryl will be held at the end of April. Dr. Mazei-Robison will work with Julie Delgado to get a ballot out when the time comes.

4. Graduate Program Curriculum Update

In February, the Neuroscience program had a faculty meeting to discuss the various graduate program curriculum models. There was a consensus that model #1 was little support for it. However, models #2 and #3 were of interest to faculty and students. At the heart of the discussion was PHM 827 vs. NEU 801/802. If models 2 or 3 were pursued, there is implications for PHM 827 since the course is a required course for NEU students, however it is not required for any other program.

Dr. Galligan has charged GAC with exploring the options and implications of model 2 and 3.

Marie Doyle indicated it was the students understanding with the retirement of Peter Cobbett that PHM 827 would be changed and it was required for NEU students only.

Dr. Mazei-Robison inquired if NEU will always be a standalone program opposed of going the route of BMS, like Genetics, Physiology and many other programs.

5. Old Business

There is no old business

6. New Business

There is no new business

Meeting adjourned at 11:04 am