Faculty Meeting Minutes  
Friday, December 11, 2015: 10:00am – 11:00am

PRESENT: Amasino (exited 10:50), Attie (arrived 10:06), Bednarek, Butcher, Clagett-Dame (arrived 10:48), Cox, Fox, Friesen, Henzler-Wildman, Holden, Kiessling (arrived 10:11), Kimble, Landick, Markley, Martin (arrived 10:05), Mitchell, Ntambi, Palmenberg, Pike, Raines (exited 10:52), Ralph, Raman, Rayment, Record (arrived 10:31), Senes, Weibel, Wickens, and Wildonger (exited 10:47)

ABSENT: Ansari, Craig, Hayes, Hoskins, Pagliarini, and Sussman

Fox called the meeting to order (10:04).

1. (10:05) Maury Cotter (Office of Quality Improvement) joined the meeting to solicit ideas for the faculty Strategic Planning Day on January 14, 2016. Discussion topics included: teaching and education in tandem with or distinct from research; leveraging and enhancing Biochemistry’s impact on the field and in the world; the direction of the field and the Department’s place within it; securing external funding; establishing a Board of Visitors. Additional ideas should be shared with Fox (chair@biochem.wisc.edu) or Cotter (maury.cotter@wisc.edu) within the next couple weeks. (Cotter exited the meeting.)

2. (10:29) Fox introduced the following announcements:

   a. An All College Meeting will be held on December 16, 2015 at 3:00pm in the Microbial Sciences Building.
   b. Raines was awarded a 2015 Humboldt Research Award from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation in Germany. The award will support Raines’ sabbatical visits to Germany and collaboration with German scientists.
   c. Kiessling won the 2016 Willard Gibbs Award from the Chicago Section of the American Chemical Society.
   d. Biochemistry submitted six proposals to the UW2020 initiative. UW2020 received 136 full proposals; the review process will likely extend through March 2016. Another call is expected to go out in February 2016; investigators who submitted proposals in the first round are not eligible to submit as PI in the second round, but can be listed as a collaborator.
   e. Landick announced the next stages in the Biodesign/Biocatalysis faculty search: the College and Provost will split the cost of the hire 50/50, with the entire cost moving to the College
over the course of a decade; startup costs will be split equally between College, Provost, and the Wisconsin Energy Institute (WEI). Faculty may participate in Skype interviews with the remaining 10 candidates, some of whom are of interest to Biochemistry; Landick will share interview and applicant information via email. Invitations will be extended in January 2016.

3. (10:48) Friesen provided an update for the New Student Orientation Committee. Lab assignments for rotating IPiB students were released this morning; 90% of students were placed in labs (16/18). Two students will continue to rotate beginning January 1, 2016.

4. (10:54) The Provost’s office requires periodic review of departmental Tenure Guidelines. Biochemistry’s guidelines were distributed for review, to be discussed at a subsequent faculty meeting.

The meeting was adjourned (10:59).

Respectfully submitted,

Brian G. Fox
Chair, Department of Biochemistry