PRESENT: I. Murakami, C. Lenart, E. Eisenbraun, D. Wagner, R. Hoyt, T. Bessette, K. Bessette, C. Herman, S. Kim, J. Delano, S. Birge

GUESTS: Myrna Friedlander, Department of Counseling Psychology--School of Education
Janine Jurkowski, Department of Health Policy, Management, and Behavior--School of Public Health

MINUTES: Minutes from September 9, 2008 unanimously approved as written

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS REPORT

Dr. Phillips was not in attendance

CHAIR’S REPORT

Dr. Hoyt reported that the Presidential Search has been restarted and is on a very tight timeline – candidate campus visits are anticipated by the spring semester.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Graduate Certificate in Health Disparities

Dr. Myrna Friedlander from the School of Education and Dr. Janine Jurkowski from the School of Public Health made a presentation on the proposed Graduate Certificate in Health Disparities. The program is intended to train matriculated graduate students enrolled in certain programs and workers in the community (who hold a BA) to be leaders in addressing and eliminating minority health disparities. In the case of the community worker population, it is hoped that the certificate will give the participants a taste of graduate school and encourage them to seek matriculation at the University.

The program consists of 12 credit hours in an interdisciplinary program. All courses are existing and the certificate courses are above and beyond degree requirements for matriculated students. The admissions committee will be multidisciplinary, and the School of Public Health will administer the program. Enrollment target is 10 students for the first three years, with admissions being granted two times per year. Demand for this program was demonstrated through an informal survey of nonmatriculated students and interest at the Department of Health. There was lots of interested in multicultural psychology, which is anticipated to be a big draw.

Dr. Wagner inquired about the market and whether there was a more generic certificate program. Psychology has none; Public Health has a certificate in social behavior / epidemiology / behavioral health that is very broad and does not give participants a particular skill set. General health does not get at minority health needs. Dr. Wagner
commented that if job ads are looking for the specific skill set offered in this program, that helps validate the market.

Dr. Lenart inquired as to whether the courses will count toward degree requirements for matriculated students – a maximum of six credits can be applied toward the degree, and none of the courses in the certificate program are currently required.

Dr. Eisenbraun asked about the impact on teaching resources should the program be successful – Drs. Friedlander and Jurkowski indicated that they have the capacity to expand using current faculty should additional sections be required.

The certificate program will be reviewed by the GAC next week.

Program proposal will be forwarded to the Senate Executive Committee November 3rd. UPC approved the program to move forward as a bill.

2. Tidbits from UPC members

Additional discussion was held regarding establishing a formal process for vetting interest in a proposed program as part of the program proposal itself – departments should submit hard data supporting interest in a proposed program as opposed to informal surveys and anecdotal information.

Mr. Birge noted that the Campus Center kickoff meeting with the architects will be held on October 22nd

Dr. Delano mentioned that the President’s Budget Working Committee has been formed. President Philip’s intent is to assemble a budget advisory group with representation from faculty, staff and the senate. No timeline has been established yet. Dr. Hoyt added that someone on RAPC should be on this group – Mr. Bessette and Ms. Herman volunteered.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Name Change for the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences to Department of Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences

Name change discussed at the September 9, 2008 meeting was put to a vote and approved by all attendees with one abstention by Dr. Delano.

2. Reconstitution of the two Committees within UPC

The final list of committee members are:

Resource Analysis and Planning Committee
   Tom Bessette (convener)
   Eric Eisenbraun
   John Delano
   Cristian Lenart
   Richard Johnson

University Facilities Committee
   Ineke Murakami (convener)
Motion was made to adjourn at 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Stacy Stern