

Department of Mathematics

Executive Committee Meeting

Thursday, October 22, 2009

331 Altgeld Hall, 9:30am

Present: Dunfield, Duursma, Junge, Katz, Schenck, Rosenblatt

Absent: Sowers

Minutes: Schenck

Secretary: Schenck

OPEN MINUTES

Approved 10-29-2009

- 1.* The Chair reported that:
 - a. Applied math program discussions continue.
- 2.* Hiring of a Faculty Excellence candidate was discussed.
- 3.* For discussion of the REGS budget request, Duursma posted the numbers of Ph.D. students in our program, broken out by year and US/nonUS, along with MCTP support. After lengthy debate, the EC approved part of the budget request. The EC will revisit the REGS request in the spring after the budget clarifies.

The DGS will be requested to email area chairs, requesting that areas coordinate, so that if MCPT funds are available for US students, those with grants can fund other students. It is possible that more money might be later approved, but with a certain 3% cut and possibly more, the EC was not willing to commit additional funds at this point. The Chair expressed a desire to view budget as a whole; this is a possible retreat topic.

4. There was a discussion of Rosenblatt's proposal to task the Teaching Quality Committee to determine ways improve departmental ICES scores. The EC isolated three main options:
 - 1) Have the committee members work as mentors with faculty identified as having bottom 10% ICES scores.
 - 2) Coordinate with the UAC in search for systemic improvements, such as infrastructure improvement for large classes, better use of course stewards, etc.
 - 3) Identify top flight lecturers and provide incentives for them to teach large lectures.

The EC adjourned without finalizing the charge for the Teaching Quality Committee.

*-Details are in Closed Minutes.