Present: Greg Tewksbury, Emily Newberry, Chris Douglas, Cathy Larson, Jie Song

Absent: Ruth Person, Gerard Voland, Chris Pearson, Wieqi Li, Sharman Siebenthal

Emily Newberry called the meeting to order.

This “unscheduled” meeting was called to discuss the CENS proposal.

Item of Discussion

- CENS Proposal

E. Newberry opened the discussion by stating that it would be helpful if perhaps specific guidelines/policies, etc. were established to create benchmarks outlining necessary criteria required for units seeking to establish separate schools.

C. Larson questioned whether it was the responsibility of CAC/BSP to determine whether or not a restructuring of CAS was needed.

A brief discussion ensued relative to the proposals that have come to CAC/BSP for consideration over the past semester (e.g. nursing and now the CENS proposal). What are the major differences between the two proposals? Does the report requested by faculty council need to support a proposal or simply provide the committee’s thoughts? Ultimately, it is the decision of the chancellor whether or not to move a proposal forward to the president and regents.

C. Douglas stated that one of the key questions for him revolves around the $800,000 required for a new dean’s office. J. Song stated the units that would be leaving CAS would also contribute to the current CAS dean’s office (budget-related).

C. Larson inquired whether or not the $800,000 is an annual amount, when the projected budget indicates a surplus in year 3. Why would the entire campus need to continue funding a school that is projecting a budget carry forward?
C. Douglas stated that if the University is willing to contribute $800,000 for the establishment of new dean’s office, why not utilize those funds for unmet equipment needs (as that is a significant element of the CENS proposal). J. Song refuted that the proposal has much more to do with autonomy than equipment needs.

C. Douglas further inquired how a new dean’s office would improve student retention. J. Song stated that a new dean’s office would have more specific knowledge with regard to class offerings as they would be overseeing specifically the sciences.

C. Larson questioned how STEM is defined and whether or not there are specific financial resources that can be earmarked solely for STEM.

C. Douglas asked where the campus would come up with $800,000? G. Tewksbury indicated the campus has funds designated specifically for “initiatives.” This would be the most likely source for funding. C. Larson questioned whether other units/schools would be “hurt” by designating such a significant amount of funding for this initiative. G. Tewksbury stated the campus must decide what their goals are ~ is this a worthy initiative?

A discussion commenced relative to the proposed budget for the CENS school, projected enrollments and how the establishment of a new school might impact CAS.

E. Newberry will begin the process of preparing the report requested by faculty council and will circulate it among the CAC/BSP membership.

Meeting Adjourned.

The committee is scheduled to meet on 4/18