

## **Faculty Meeting March 5, 2003**

### Attending

Ahmed, S.  
Bautch, V.  
Burch, C.  
Dangl, J.  
Desaix, J.  
Duronio, B.  
Gensel, P.  
Goldstein, B.  
Grant, s.  
Jones, A.  
Kieber, J

Kier, B.  
Kingsolver, J.  
Lieb, J.  
Lohman, K.  
Maroni, G.  
Matson, S.  
Matthysse, A.  
Misch, D.  
Padgett, P.  
Peet, B.  
Petes, T.

Pfennig, D  
Podolsky, B.  
Pringle, J.  
Pukkila, P.  
Reed, J.  
Reice, S  
Servedio, M.  
Stafford, D.  
Wiley, H.  
Willet, C

Steve Matson serving as Chair called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

The first order of business was a report from Seth Reice from the Undergraduate Studies Committee (USC) regarding their discussions of the current curriculum. This report is in preparation for the upcoming review scheduled for May 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>. Seth reported the decision of the USC that the current curriculum is a strong one and that proposed changes would be either not advantageous or not feasible.

The second order of business was an update from Bill Kier on the Biology Departments first Graduation Ceremony to occur this spring. This event will occur on Saturday, May 17, 2003 at 2 pm in Charmichael, the afternoon before the general graduation ceremony. A reception will follow. Bill conveyed that the students response to adding the ceremony has been very positive, and that we can expect 1500 friends and relatives to attend. Faculty are encouraged to attend in cap and gown.

There was an additional discussion of whether and how to institute TA awards, and whether this should be made a part of the graduation ceremony. Although many seemed in favor of TA awards, this was not discussed at length.

The final order of business was to consider making an offer of the Integrative Physiology faculty position to one of four candidates: Matt McHenry, Paul Faure, Sheila Patek, and Keith Sockman. Ken Lohman, who chaired the search committee spoke for the prevailing view of the committee (Lohman, Wiley, Kier, Kingsolver, Gensel, Sonke Johnson, Larry Boles). Although the committee, and the faculty, found all four candidates to be acceptable, Patek and Sockman inspired the most enthusiasm and were found to be outstanding in all regards. Sockman was viewed as the preferred candidate for the following reasons:

- Within bird endocrinology he is regarded as the up and coming star.
- He successfully combines behavioral physiology and ecology.

- He is an accomplished neurobiologist and neuroanatomist.

Overall, the committee feels that Sockman would fill a bigger gap in the Biology department than Patek, whose primary contribution would be the comparative method.

A lengthy discussion and a straw vote revealed that the committee and the faculty were almost evenly divided between Sockman and Patek, and consider both to be strong candidates. Given the even division, the faculty felt it appropriate to weigh strongly the greater expertise of the committee.

A motion to approve the committee's recommendation that Keith Sockman be offered the faculty position in Integrative Physiology was raised and seconded. The vote by show of hands:

In favor: 28

Opposed: 1

Abstained: 1

A motion to offer the position to Sheila Patek immediately in the event that Keith Sockman declines our offer was raised and seconded. The vote by show of hands:

In favor: 30

Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0

Following the votes it was stressed that we should not allow Sockman to delay his decision because the most important outcome is that we get one of these two outstanding candidates. Steve Matson agreed but warned that the Sockman negotiation is not expected to be an easy one because there are spousal issues to deal with.

Steve Matson adjourned the meeting at 5:15

Christina Burch  
Faculty Secretary