Chair J. Pratt called the meeting to order at 2:01 pm

1. Minutes of the April 28, 2015 meeting approved as revised.

2. Materials Science program review

Marc M. gave an update on the Materials Science and Engineering Degree proposal. It will be submitted to the Board of Regents this summer. The plan is to accept freshmen and sophomores starting in fall of 2016. Jean P. commended the program for its strengths in terms of student awards, integrated curriculum, and a new engineering major proposal. Jean P. asked about the summative recommendation "continue in present form." Marc M. noted that the committee included an additional category of "Grow," but he was accepting of the "continue in present form." Marc noted that to get accreditation they are already committed to an extensive review from ABET and that will be in about 5 years--need to have at least one graduate before ABET accreditation. Mike C. noted that for externally accredited programs, there is no internal review required. Lori B. asked about the recommendation to clarify expectations for collaboration and publications. Marc M. has had conversations with all probationary faculty since the review focused on collaboration to clarify the expectations--how will collaborations be reviewed. Cheryl L. asked about mentoring of faculty and the suggestion to assign each junior faculty an outside mentor within the UW System--is this useful? Marc M. has had a conversation with one junior faculty and that person is not asking Marc M. to seek out a mentor. This person was comfortable seeking out their own mentor. Jean P. reflected that it sounds as if Marc M. would at least be able to review/approve mentors. Selika D-L suggested, and Marc M. agreed, that a system of mentoring or a human resource system might be helpful for junior faculty.

Jean P. asked about the recommendation regarding teaching assignments, and Marc M. stated that this was progressing and the Dean of A&S suggests that the faculty continue to teach in other departments. Recommendation #10 to move Materials Science off campus seems problematic. Marc M. noted that growth potential on campus is very limited and there is space within the city that is available that would be a good match to Materials Science needs. It does cause problems with the connection to the university and other problems, such as transportation. Phillips Hall is at capacity. Mike C. stated that the long term plan for a new science building is in the campus physical plan for the future, but is not anywhere near being realized. Lori B. stated that if we shifted to an urban, integrated model it might serve the campus needs for growth in the future due to the land-locked nature of the campus. Selika D-L noted that sciences have been limited for years due to space restrictions. Ned G. noted that collaborations depend on positive attitudes on the part of the community for university growth, and as the Confluence Project has demonstrated, this may be problematic.

Jean P. commented on recommendation #16 and the maintenance of support staff for current levels of instrumentation. Regional Industry has in the past requested assistance with instrumentation, but this is limited by employees. There is a need for fully trained staff to do the analysis or to train industry partners on the instruments. Staff currently are employed on one-year contracts, and Marc M. reported that longer term contracts would be more appropriate. These positions are not tied directly to instruction and may be seen as expendable. The extension would reassure staff that they are valued and needed. These two staff members are not covered by grants.

Jean P. asked about #18--commitment to recruiting underserved populations. Marc M. noted that NSF guidelines leave out some groups that are underserved, such as Hmong. Selika D-W noted that Jesse Dixon and Odawa White, Memorial H.S., North, and Altoona might be possible for encouraging students to engage in MS. Another idea is the
UW-Eau Claire Foundation, Bremer Bank, US Bank, 3M, etc. Marc M. also noted that a major recruitment tool is WisCamp. Jean P. suggested that Selika D-L follow-up with Marc M. after the meeting.

3. CIE proposals are delayed until fall

4. Program Review Narratives on Psychology and Broadfield Social Studies Program

   a. The program Review Narrative for Psychology was approved as submitted. Passed 9 in favor, 0 opposed.
   b. Broadfield Social Studies was discussed. Selika D-L questioned the recommendation about advising. The language was changed to recommend maintaining an up-to-date web site and to have the degree audit working. Cheryl also noted that there were other challenges to advising as listed in the narrative. The Program Review Narrative for Broadfield Social Studies was approved as amended. The review passed with 9 in favor and 0 opposed.

5. Program Review Process and Procedure discussion postponed until the next meeting.

6. Next week the committee will review the Materials Science Program Review Form and the Program Review Process and Procedures discussion.

7. Meeting adjourned at 2:55 pm.

Minutes taken by Don Mowry