

Notes from Meeting of M&S Steering Committee  
September 9, 2009  
Rollins Hall Conference Room 102E  
11:00 A.M. – 12:45 P.M.

- Present: Phil Langlais (Vice Provost and Chair), Andreas Tolk (EN), Dean Chatfield (BU), Gianluca De Leo (HS), Kurt Gaubatz (A&L), Li-Shi Luo (SC), Roland Mielke (EN), Ginger Watson (ED), Mike Overstreet (SC), John Sokolowski (VMASC)
- Approval of Minutes: Phil Langlais presented to the Steering Committee the Minutes of the May 13, 2009 meeting for approval, whereupon motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously adopted. The Minutes were approved as presented
- University Decentralization and its Effects on M&S Programs:
  - Phil Langlais announced to the committee that the discussion of decentralization has just begun, and that the university will continue its operations as usual until further decisions are made. He emphasized the point that Modeling and Simulation programs and their administration and governance serve as a model for managing future interdisciplinary programs. He remarked that during this semester, the committee should work toward clearly setting the criteria and definitions of Modeling and Simulation core and affiliated faculty and qualifications of students who receive financial support.
- Demonstrating the Outcomes of M&S Programs
  - John Sokolowski raised the issue of how the university could demonstrate the outcomes and the contributions of Modeling and Simulation programs to the legislature, in order to justify the funding. He pointed out that with the growth and diversification of the Modeling and Simulation programs, it has become difficult to demonstrate clear and measureable returns on investments to the legislature.
  - The Committee had an extensive discussion on how to demonstrate the outcomes and contributions of Modeling and Simulation programs to various constituencies, namely the legislature, the academe, as well as the business sector. Roland Mielke emphasized the importance of demonstrating the contributions of Modeling and Simulation on the economic development of the region as well as the industry by showing what happens to the students who receive Modeling and Simulation assistantships after they complete their programs. Andreas Tolk pointed out that the contribution should also be in the development and expansion of Modeling and Simulation body of knowledge. John Sokolowski reiterated that the contribution must answer the question of how well the Modeling and Simulation investment was spent, and the university is obliged to show the Return on Investment in a clear, measurable form.
  - Kurt Gaubatz suggested that the Modeling and Simulation student/faculty vignettes should be collected, with the descriptions of the projects they have worked on and their curriculum vitae. Ginger Watson and Phil Langlais claimed that the Steering Committee should set the bar and agenda of presenting the case as well as setting the measures. Li-Shi Luo suggested that the Committee should provide a statement that can be used in publications as ‘acknowledgement of support’ so that students and faculty can use them in their publications. Phil Langlais suggested that he would come up with the language and have the Committee review it for approval.
  - The Committee also discussed how to keep track of the students with limited resources. Phil Langlais suggested that a list of Modeling and Simulation stipend

recipients should be created, along with their faculty advisors. Phil Langlais also suggested that a questionnaire should be developed and distributed to the students as well as faculty which would create simplified vitae for the students/faculty including the courses taken (taught), publications, presentations, grants, etc.

- Requirements for M&S Stipend Recipients:
  - Subsequent to discussing the ways to demonstrate the outcomes of Modeling and Simulation programs, the Committee agreed that participation to the Modeling and Simulation Capstone Conference should be required to all Modeling and Simulation stipend recipients as one of the ways to showcase the outcomes to various stakeholders.
- Definitions of M&S Faculty
  - The definitions of Modeling and Simulation ‘core’ and ‘affiliated’ faculty were discussed. Andreas Tolk suggested that the line should be drawn between faculty who teach Modeling and Simulation core and elective courses and faculty who conduct Modeling and Simulation research. Dean Chatfield pointed out the different focuses on “Modeling” and “Simulation” that have not been clearly specified. John Sokolowski raised a question of Modeling and Simulation professional versus faculty.
  - The Committee agreed that a Modeling and Simulation faculty should be engaged in at least two of the following three academic activities: (1) teaching Modeling and Simulation courses, (2) advising Modeling and Simulation students, and/or (3) conducting Modeling and Simulation research.
- Next meeting
  - The Committee will meet again on September 23, 2009.

Miki Yoshimura  
09.13.2009