Biomechanics & Movement Science
Fall Faculty Meeting
November 7, 2014, 1:30-2:30
STAR 113

In Attendance: Anjana Bhat, Thomas Buckley, Darlene Calton, Jeremy Crenshaw, Nancy Getchell, Slobodan Jarić, Sam Lee, Michelle Lobo, Dave Logerstedt, Suzanne Morton, Federico Pozzi, Liz Rapp, Darcy Reisman, Jim Richards, Dustyn Roberts, Bill Rose, Todd Royer, Karin Silbernagel, Lynn Snyder-Mackler, Steven Stanhope, Buz Swanik, Joe Zeni

Agenda

1. Call to Order – Meeting called to order at 1:30PM.
2. Approval of the minutes - Dr. Rose motioned to approve the minutes from the last meeting on March 6, 2014 and Michele Lobo seconded. Motion approved unanimously.
3. Announcements
   a. Darlene Calton (New Staff Assistant) - Dr. Swanik introduced Darlene Calton who will be working as a Staff Assistant for BIOMS and KAAP.
   b. POS Reviews - There is an ongoing POS audit for all current BIOMS students to make sure that a current and approved POS is on file.
   c. Website updates (Pictures, Press) - Staff is encouraged to send pictures/profiles for the website, which is used by students to select advisors. All website updates should be sent to Darlene including awards, accomplishments, announcements, etc.
   d. Defense Announcements (Document circulation by PDF) - Please include a PDF of the proposal, thesis or dissertation when circulating emails about defense announcements.
   e. Tuition Blocks:
      i. Priorities 1) Bridge 2) Junior faculty 3) New Faculty 4) Diversity - There are still tuition blocks available for students – all requests have been met so far.
   f. Executive Committee members - Lucas Lu has joined the Executive Committee and all other members have remained. The committee meets about every three weeks. Please send concerns and issues through your committee member.
   g. Budget - BIOMS budget was increased by $3K this year. Most of the budget will go for S-Contracts. There are two contracts pending approval for this spring semester. A discussion ensued about the possibility of an Engineering S-Contract in the summer and/or a winter class w/Cadavers. However, most students don’t have tuition covered during winter and summer sessions so this becomes an issue.

At this point, Fed Pozzi brought up the request from students to have a Visual 3-D Analysis class and led to a discussion about course sequencing to give a balance between basic biomechanics and math and applications. This discussion will continue. The recommendation will be considered along with other curriculum discussions.
i. Class S-contracts for courses
   1. Dr. Freeman Miller (Pathological Gait Analysis, Spring 2015)
   2. Dr. Nancy Getchell (Motor Learning and Control, Spring 2015)
   3. Michele Lobo (Fall 2015) – not this fall but maybe in the future

h. Ranking by National Academy of Kinesiology/American Kinesiology Association
   - We will be submitting information in order to be ranked.

i. Graduate Education Issues for “Delaware Will Shine” - Tuition is hurting
   graduate education (though BIOMS is doing better than other units). There is talk
   of changing the structure of graduate organization – perhaps a graduate college
   and/or graduate housing. Dr. Snyder-Mackler stated this is a resonating topic.
   i. Tuition / RBB
   ii. Graduate College
   iii. Graduate housing

j. “Slate” application system to replace “Hobsons” in the near future.

k. Dissertation Discourse - Dr. Richards explained that this is a successful, well-
   attended, student-run dissertation discourse which has replaced dissertation boot
   camp. Students should be encouraged to attend.

l. Sustaining status problem - It has been noted that there is a push (by some
   faculty) to get students to sustaining status to save money in the RBB system.

m. BIOMS Seal - Not on the original agenda but Dr. Swanik asked how the group
   would feel about a seal to represent BIOMS. The group thought it was a good
   idea and Dr. Stanhope offered to consider the use of INBRE funds.

4. Old business
   a. Curriculum (Time line for changes)
      i. Eliminate MS as a requirement for PhD (Dr. Cole Galloway) - A rather
         long discussion about MS vs PhD.
         Liz Rapp stated that coursework is a problem with both a MS and PhD in
         BIOMS (Dr. Snyder-Mackler suggested that this is a separate issue)
         Concerns – having the MS available is a good fallback for candidates that
         do not complete the PhD. Having no MS requirement means that students may not have the
         experience to research and/or ability to write a dissertation level paper.
         Most BIOMS students are PhD level.
         Dr. Stanhope raised the fact that the point of a PhD program is to take a
         student and end up with a colleague. The trend in academia is for students
         to skip the MS and go right to PhD with therefore more faculty hand-
         holding and research topics chosen by existing funding. We are then
         teaching students how to write and follow instructions, not necessarily
         how to be a colleague.
         Dr. Snyder-Mackler hopes that students bring new ideas and techniques to
         existing studies/grants. Engineering, PT and Biological Sciences currently
         have no MS requirements.
         Dr. Swanik commented that we need to find a system to check and balance
         the experience if there is no MS requirement.
The Medical School Model would require approximately 2 years of coursework with 3 years of research which may vary based on student coming in with or without MS. This may avoid running out of coursework issue. Research credits could be benchmarks, but must be monitored. Dr. Snyder-Mackler remarked that staff should be teaching a course every other year and suggested that Dr. Swanik negotiate this. She also suggested that we keep the MS as a fallback for PhD failure but not allow students to enroll in a MS program. 

Another discussion about sustaining ensued as we spoke about the possibility of winter/summer sessions. According to Dr. Richards, the sustaining practices may change which will alter our course offerings Core Classes (Dr. Darcy Reisman) may be discussed with other changes to the curriculum, along with potential Pre-Requisites (Dr. Sam Lee)

Comprehensive exam – After much discussion about proposal timing, Dr. Richards suggested that we require a concept proposal, a proposal defense and a dissertation. The concept proposal would serve as a comprehensive exam, or part of it. Additionally this concept proposal as an exam will prepare students for the real world where they are proposing concepts for grant awards. Federico Pozzi spoke at this point about students requesting yearly evaluations and Dr. Snyder-Mackler said that we have a model/form but it is not currently implemented. Joe Zeni volunteered to help write-up the concept proposal idea.

ii. 5 Program Areas – Agreement they need to be re-considered

Current:
1. Applied Anatomy & Biomechanics (AAB)
2. Applied/Exercise Physiology (AEP)
3. Motor Control & Behavior (MCB)
4. Rehabilitation Engineering (RE)
5. Tissue/Molecular Biomechanics (TMB)

Suggested additions – Rehabilitation outcomes in Rehabilitation (Dr. Snyder-Mackler for Greg Hicks)
Orthopedic Rehabilitation (suggested by Dr. Stanhope)

5. New business (Medical model discussion occurred while discussing old business and is posted there.)

   a. Academic correlate of the medical education model:
      i. For students entering with a BS degree:
         · Two years of coursework (30 credits)*
         · Comprehensive exam? (puts student on sustaining)
         · Three years of research (23 credits + dissertation)

   b. For students entering with a MS degree:
We should determine whether core courses (as opposed to the current core requirements) should be specified. If the faculty wish to move toward comprehensive exams, core courses would facilitate the option of giving exams at the end of the first year or at the end of the second year of coursework.

**Credit requirements would be determined by advisor with approval of Executive Committee.

6. **Adjournment** – Dr. Swanik concluded that we have a good start and will continue this discussion in December. Dr. Zeni offered to “lead the charge” and will contact all faculty for input about the comprehensive exam and MS requirement. Meeting adjourned at 3:00PM.