Biophysics Research Division
Faculty Meeting
Thursday, March 18, 2004
12:00-1:30 p.m., Room 3245
Meeting Minutes

Present: James Penner-Hahn (Chair), Gordon Crippen, Ari Gafni, Jane Ginopolis, Sam Krimm, Martha Ludwig, Neil Marsh, Chris Meiners, Noemi Mirkin, Duncan Steel, Nils Walter, Robert Zand, Michal Zochowski, Erik Zuiderweg

Recorded by: Ann Titus, Administrative Assistant

Computer Support Update
Jim introduced BRD's new System Administrator, David Glaser. Dave will begin his position here on April 12. He will reside in Ruby's office (4019) and Ruby will move in to the main office (4028).

Student Recruitment Update
The PIBS Student Recruitment took place last Friday (3/12) and Jim indicated that we've received permission to make offers to 4 PIBS students. This weekend is the Biophysics Student Recruitment weekend. We have 10 students visiting. BRD will be holding a welcoming reception on Friday (3/19) at 5:30 p.m. in room 3245. Jim encouraged all to attend. Various interviews and tours have been scheduled for the students on Saturday.

Faculty Recruitment Update
Jim gave an update on the search. The following three candidates are currently being considered as possible joint hires in BRD: Alexey Ladokhin, Tina Iverson, and Sarah Keller. Alexey Ladokhin would have been a joint hire with Biological Chemistry, however, there was not sufficient enthusiasm to make him an offer at this time. As for Tina Iverson, she would be a joint hire with Chemistry, and it's possible that she could be offered a position, but we're still waiting for Chemistry to make a final decision. Sarah Keller would be a joint hire with Physics and we are hoping to move forward with offering her a position. Once Sarah's letters are available, the faculty will be asked to review these and vote on whether to offer her a position. We need to pursue a position for her partner Rob Carlson. Rob gave the BRD Seminar on March 12 and met with various faculty around campus. Physics, Bioinformatics, and Electrical Engineering have all expressed an interest in Rob, so there's a chance that they may offer him a position. Jim will keep everyone informed as to the progress of the faculty recruitment.

Jim met with the BRD core faculty during the second half of the meeting to discuss a personnel issue.

Titus, Ann

From: James Penner-Hahn [jeph@umich.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, March 17, 2004 8:40 AM
To: brd.fac@umich.edu; brd.assoc.fac@umich.edu; BRD.Office@umich.edu
Subject: Faculty meeting and recruiting

I want to remind you that we have a faculty meeting at noon tomorrow (Room 3245)
Agenda:
Announcements
Update on of graduate student recruiting
Discussion of faculty recruiting

In addition, I have 2 announcements about graduate students:

As most of you know, this weekend is our big recruiting weekend for our direct-to-biophysics students. We have 10 students visiting. There will be a welcoming reception at 5:30 in room 3245. I know that this conflicts with activities in Chemistry, Physics, and Applied Physics. I encourage you to try to stop by for this, or for lunch on Saturday. Please let Ruby know if you will be there for lunch, so that we can plan appropriately.

PIBS students:
We have gotten permission to make offers to 3 PIBS students (so far -- 2 pending Chinese applicants will be discussed today).

The two domestic students are Katherine Frato and Lorraine Meyer. Many of you met with them when the visited last week. Please feel free to contact them (e-mail and phone) to encourage them to come. These are very competitive students who are likely to get offers from many schools, so we will have to work hard on recruiting. One of our strengths (students tell me this repeatedly) is that we have such a range of research activities, and such an interdisciplinary environment.

The 3rd PIBS student is Jun Ho Hur. He's from Korea and has a full fellowship from Samsung. I had the opportunity to meet him when I was in Korea over spring break, and he is outstanding. He is especially interested in single molecule studies. I encourage those folks (and anyone else that it interested) to also get in touch with him. Once again, we are competing with top schools to get him.

Jim

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Titus, Ann

From: James Penner-Hahn [jeph@umich.edu]
Sent: Monday, March 15, 2004 4:34 PM
To: brd.fac@umich.edu; Ginopolis, Jane; Titus, Ann
Subject: Senior appointment

Colleagues:

Vince Pecoraro has approached me with a proposal that he move his affiliation from 100% Chemistry to 50% Chemistry and 50% Biophysics. This obviously raises a number of issues that need to be discussed. The most important question, however, one of scientific overlap. The attraction of such a move from my perspective would be as an opportunity to strengthen the existing interactions between Vince and BRD. As you can see from his CV (attached), an increasing fraction of his research effort has shifted in the direction of biophysics -- e.g., design and characterization of de novo designed peptides.

Please review the attached CV and let me know if you have any questions. We have a faculty meeting scheduled for Thursday. I would like to devote the last half hour of this to a discussion of by the core BRD faculty of this possible change.

Jim

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