I. Welcome and Overview

Dean Gerardo Gonzalez welcomed faculty members from IUB, IUPUI, and Columbus to the Fall Faculty Meeting. New faculty members were introduced by their respective chairs. Cary Buzzelli recognized Erna Alant. Joyce Alexander recognized Joshua Danish and Mary Waldron. Mary Beth Hines introduced Ted Hall. The respective chairs also announced new retirements. From the Bloomington campus, Barbara Wolf and Dennis Knapczyk. From IUPUI, Charlie Barman will be retiring in June.

Dean Gonzalez gave a general overview of some of the issues in the School of Education. Gonzalez discussed the amended mission statement that reflects the addition of “global.” Gonzalez discussed how the strategic goals in the mission statement for the School of Education align with the strategic priorities of the University.

Gonzalez commented that the School of Education is doing an excellent job of recruiting faculty, facilitating inter-campus collaboration, increasing graduation rates, certificate programs, aligning with the master plan, and increasing state wide partnerships. A special opportunity exists for the School of Education to align with the “university priority” of internationalization. Gonzalez mentioned that extending academic initiatives will greatly help the School of Education develop relations and academic program partnerships with universities across the world, and he mentioned some initiatives underway in Language Education, IST and Policy Studies. Gonzalez noted that it is not hard to see how well the School of Education strategic goals align with the internal priorities of the university.

Gonzalez highlighted the current challenges facing the School of Education. Concerning the economic crisis and budgetary problems of the State of Indiana, the unemployment rate is above ten percent- one of the highest in the country. Last month, the State of Indiana was number one in the country in terms of percentage of jobs lost. The legislature will look at the revenue projections later this month, and on that basis will prepare a budget. The House has recommended a year budget instead of the traditional two year budget.
Gonzalez also commented on the institutional practices on the Bloomington campus. The Bloomington campus has raised standards for admission to a very significant level— in 2011, students have to complete an honors high school diploma to be admitted. In addition, the average SAT and GPA scores have also risen to unprecedented levels— which will directly affect student admissions into the School of Education. This will also affect the financial aid obligations of the Bloomington campus to recruit students. According to Central Administration, the financial obligation this year will be approximately $60 million dollars. The money that will be used for recruitment is coming from assessments. The School of Education assessments are projected to grow by 10 percent next year.

Gonzalez also commented on the changing nature of state demographics. In the next year or two, the number of high school graduates will peak. Another concern is the increasingly hostile policy environment. Gonzalez commented on New Vision Plan from the Indiana Department of Education which seeks to deregulate education including teacher and school administrator licensing. This has tremendous implications for the School of Education and we should be actively engaged in the discussion that may lead to legislative proposals.

Gonzalez also discussed increasing competition. This week the School of Education received a proposal from the Higher Education Commission stating that Purdue has put forward a program that grants a master’s degree of Science Education completely online. Earlier this semester, the School of Education also received a proposal from the Higher Education Commission stating that Ball State is proposing to offer an Ed.D. degree online in Educational Leadership. The competition is increasing, and these are issues that have major implications for the School of Education. Despite these challenges, there are new opportunities for the School of Education to explore.

Dean Gonzalez commented that the School of Education has an increased distance education capacity. Across the Bloomington campus, over twenty-seven faculty members have signed up for distance education training. In addition to distance education, Gonzalez mentioned the evolving new degree and certificate programs.

Dean Gonzalez also stated that faculty competitiveness in funded research is excellent. Faculty members— this year— have received $14 million dollars in research funds on the Bloomington campus; $2 million dollars on the Indianapolis campus. Last year 73 Graduate Assistants, Research Associates, and Associate Instructors were funded through the grants that faculty receive. Concerning diversity, we have a ways to go. However, about 40% of the junior tenure track faculty are faculty of color. This will
take some time to translate to senior faculty of color, but we are headed in the right direction.

Dean Gonzalez noted that this is an exciting time to be involved in education. However, we cannot afford to get comfortable because the pace of change and reform within the field is increasingly dynamic.

II. State of the Budget and Special Initiatives

Executive Associate Dean Don Hossler discussed the fiscal initiatives for 2009. The School of Education expects to end this fiscal year with a modest surplus. While some might ask why this surplus will not be included into the base budget, this would be an unwise move because of economic and demographic uncertainty. Despite the uncertainties there are signs that undergraduate enrollment is up this semester and this is a positive sign.

Hossler commented on the new direct admission program. The School of Education has been working with the Office of Teacher Education, Katie Paulin, and Ghangis Carter on recruiting students. Eighty students have applied for admission to the program but we do not yet know how many of these will actually end up matriculating to the School of Education. In addition to recruitment, the School of Education is focusing on assisting students with Praxis support. Traditionally, students who enter education are from blue collar families that may need help passing the Praxis.

Hossler mentioned that graduate enrollment is down. This is not unexpected. We believe that this is due to the winding down of the reading program started by Mary Beth Hines. We owe Mary Beth and her colleagues a tremendous debt of gratitude for the service they have provided both the School of Education and the State of Indiana.

Hossler discussed distance education efforts. These efforts are being done to be more responsive to growing demands—both internal and external to the School of Education. Hossler also noted the new green power saving initiative led by ETS. As far as we know, this is the first attempt at power conservation on the Bloomington campus.

In summation, Hossler noted that the reserves for the School of Education should last for approximately 2-3 years—depending on how enrollment and state funding unfolds. Hossler also stated that this should give the School of Education enough time to launch distance education initiatives and continue efforts to increase undergraduate enrollment.

Pat Rogan discussed the financial situation of School of Education at IUPUI. IUPUI is projected to be in the black for the fiscal year. IUPUI
has also modified its assessment model, which will equate to $13,000 in savings.

Rogan also discussed credit hours for the spring 2009 semester. For undergraduates, there is a 1.8% decrease in the total number of credit hours. For graduate students, there is a 3.7% increase in total number of credit hours. For the fall of 2009, Rogan states that IUPUI anticipates an increase in both undergraduate and graduate enrollment.

Rogan stated that there are some special initiatives that are underway that contribute to the overall grant income of IUPUI. Such initiatives are: Ivy Tech and “pipeline” courses, K-12 World Language, M.S. addition, Increase Online and Professional Development, and 2 + 2 International Programs.

Bob Sherwood and Pat Rogan discussed research initiatives for the Bloomington and Indianapolis campuses. Sherwood discussed several proposals that were submitted to the NSF, NIH, and various other agencies since the Fall Faculty Meeting. In the first quarter, over $14 million dollars have been awarded. Sherwood also noted that Indiana is expected to receive approximately $1.3 billion dollars from the economic stimulus package. The great majority of funds will be distributed by the state funding formula to local school districts, although some may reach higher education. Sherwood also noted that the governor has not submitted his plan to the U.S. Department of Education- so we do not know exactly how the stimulus will affect higher education.

Sherwood discussed the Teacher Quality Partnership Grants. The School of Education must undertake one of two activities: Strengthen the Pre-Bac program or the Teacher Residency Program. The Strengthened Pre-Bac program needs to include: a high needs partnership (either urban or rural), a strong mentoring program with classroom teachers, and an empirically-based program that includes a strong understanding of student data. The Teacher Residency Program must include: a one year induction program with master’s degree at the end of the year, and a strong partnership with high needs school/district. Sherwood also mentioned that there are optional activities for the Teacher Quality Partnership Grants: preparing school leaders for Rural Areas and partner with a “digital education content developer” to improve pre-service program.

Sherwood announced summer and fall deadlines for the Institute for Educational Sciences (IES). For the research and training grants in the summer, letters of intent—though not binding—are due on April 27th, 2009; proposals are due June 25th, 2009. For research and training grants in the Fall, letters of intent are due August 3rd, 2009; proposals are due October
1st, 2009. Sherwood also announced that there is an IES Proposal Workshop “Brown Bag” April 27th from 12:00pm – 2:00pm in room 2140.

Sherwood also announced a new incentive to support Principle Investigators (PI) who apply for higher indirect cost grants. Sherwood commented that if a grant with $100,000 of direct costs would generate $54,000 of indirect costs, then the grant was at “full” indirect rate (54%). The President’s office would take 2.5% “off the top” so the School of Education actually receive $51,500 in indirect cost. Then 35% of the difference between $51,500 and $40,000 is $4,025, which would be placed into the PI’s research account. Sherwood highlighted that allocation is done actually after the end of each fiscal year.

Tom Brush provided the faculty with an Accreditation Update. Brush announced that the NCATE site visit will be from April 10th – 14th, 2010. Prior to the NCATE visit, the Teacher Education Certification Program needs to undergo a review either a state review or through their professional association. On the Bloomington campus, the School of Education had 21 program reviews submitted in 2007-2008. Of the 21 reviews, 9 are by the state and 12 are by professional associations. From the state: 8 of the programs have been approved; 1 still has conditions. From the professional associations: 7 have been approved, 5 have conditions. Brush noted that the institutional report is due February 1st, 2010. This will give NCATE time to review our report.

Pat Rogan discussed the research initiatives for IUPUI. Rogan noted that grant income has increased by four fold since 2006-2007. This is due to NOYCE and the Woodrow Wilson program, IPS Partnership for Excellence (Special Ed. & Title I Stimulus), Circle City Learning Community (Mary Rigg Community Center & GW), P-20 Initiative (pending), Investigating IES, Teacher Quality Partnership grants & NSF Funding, and Institute for the Study of Latino Education.

Lina Houser updated the faculty that the School of Education at Indianapolis has submitted two program reviews to the state and six to NCATE SPAs. The elementary and secondary social studies have received national recognition with no conditions. All other program reviews were recognized with conditions. Columbus submitted three program reviews to NCATE. Two have been nationally recognized with no conditions and one has been recognized with conditions. The elementary program at IUPUI was nationally recognized with all standards met while NCATE requested permission to use the Columbus TESOL and IUPUI secondary social studies reviews as examples at their upcoming institutional session.

General discussion ensued concerning the presentation.
The meeting was adjourned by Dean Gonzalez at 12:00 PM