

MINUTES  
Interim Steering Committee [ISC] Meeting  
Homeland Security Masters Program  
October 17, 2007

- I. Welcome and introductions
  - A. D. McIntyre provided a brief update of homeland security-definitions, education initiatives outside of TAMU, education initiatives inside TAMU
    - i. 10 course certificate program currently exists at Bush School. Enrollment has gone from 11 students two years ago to 80+ this fall.
    - ii. A steering committee was appointed after the deans meeting in August 2006. That committee met twice before the university issued a new rule for interdisciplinary programs in December 2006 that spelled out requirements for an interdisciplinary faculty. The new rule initiated the hiring Dr. Jeannine Kantz to insure those requirements were met. In meetings of the initial committee, discussions for the masters degree were for 36 hours-30 hours plus 6 hours research for a thesis, 36 hours coursework for a nonthesis. A working name for the degree is a Master of Science in Policy, Science, Engineering and Technology for Homeland Security.
- II. University rule for IDPs
  - A. J. Kantz provided a brief overview of the new university rule for interdisciplinary programs that went into effect December 2006 [summary attached].
  - B. Discussion—Issues raised
    - i. A new certificate program in National Security Leadership that will be developed for Lawrence Livermore and which can tie into the new degree program.
    - ii. We need to address potential problems in the proposal with how funding will flow, but this may require policy changes. The Genetics external review team was not positive regarding the efficacy of the current administrative structure for interdisciplinary programs, which requires a Council of Participating Deans. They recommended changes that would allow funding to go directly to the IDP rather than to the traditional departments. Currently, funding follows an instructor's administrative location rather than the IDP.
    - iii. We need to find a way to start aspects of the program soonest. The initial timeline proposes admitting students for spring of 2009—student demand exists now. Waiting until the new degree program is approved will take too long. We need to “fly the flag” now. Certificate programs may help with that, but current certificate students may not transfer automatically to the new masters—we cannot make that promise to all current certificate students.
    - iv. The ISC is composed of volunteers who applied through their deans.
    - v. The steering committee will be responsible for developing the proposal for the interdisciplinary faculty for homeland security. ICHS will act as the administrative body for the steering committee and draft all necessary

documents. When the interdisciplinary faculty is approved internally, an executive committee will be formed according to the bylaws and the ISC will be dissolved. The proposal for the new degree program will come from the interdisciplinary faculty with ICHS providing support for writing the proposal.

- vi. An additional role of the ISC will be to develop support within their departments and with their deans for the interdisciplinary homeland security program and to review and edit the drafts of bylaws and the proposal for the interdisciplinary faculty.

### III. Action items

- A. Everyone—send brief bio emphasizing homeland security teaching or research expertise to [jkantz@tamu.edu](mailto:jkantz@tamu.edu)
- B. D. McIntyre—email definition of homeland security to everyone
- C. J. Kantz—contact everyone to establish monthly breakfast meeting
- D. J. Kantz/D. McIntyre—send drafts of documents to committee members for review and comment, to be returned in one week [October 24, 2007].
  - i. By-Laws
  - ii. IDP Faculty proposal
  - iii. Minutes of meeting