
From: Foster, Brian L. (Provost)
Sent: Monday, January 09, 2012 9:08 PM
To: Justice, George
Subject: NSEI document
Attachments: NSEI draft 12-23-10 bf mod 122710.docx

George, here finally are some comments on that I THINK may be your latest draft of the NSEI letter. I've marked it up a little...some rather critical changes, I think. We can talk this week if you like.

Brian

The Nuclear Science and Engineering Institute (NSEI) was founded at the University of Missouri in November of 2002 to build on MU's unique assets—especially as an experimental effort to harness the facilities (exemplified by the MU Research Reactor) and human resources (in faculty and staff) devoted to research and education in Nuclear Science and Engineering. At the time, The structure of NSEI, which was laid out in a letter from Chancellor Richard Wallace, was an experimental effort to harness MU's resources effectively. The Institute was given five years to achieve financial self-sustainability and success in research and education. After those five years, the NSEI structure institute would be fully evaluated and either discontinued, modified, or continued.

Several events delayed the review mandated in Chancellor Wallace's letter. Most important, Following a failed search for a full-time director (the interim director having retired in 2006 and the 06 search for a full-time director failed. ()), The mandated review was finally conducted in the spring of 2010, however (please see attached review document). Clearly, NSEI has significant successes, but there also some concerns and some unrealized opportunities, as the review describes.

In light of the report of the external reviewers and of the with a persistent fiscal structural deficit—the latter even after, despite having absorbed the salary line of the interim director with no replacement—, the university has decided to restructure disband NSEI in order to better achieve the high aspirations that led to its founding. its current form. **It is critical to stress that modifying the current structure, consistent with the terms laid out in the founding documents, does not signal an abandonment of research and education in Nuclear Science and Engineering.** The founding documents and the 2010 external review alike see the prominence and success of the MU Research Reactor as a unique resource in the state and in the country.

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Based on input from MU faculty, the external report, deans, and others, the following three actions are anticipated to achieve an effective restructuring.

First, it is critical that the new structure facilitate the engagement and a sense of ownership of many faculty broadly in the fields of Nuclear Science and Engineering, both in research and the educational programs. In the future, faculty who are actively engaged will not be tenured in the Institute, but all faculty will have a formal appointment as research or instructional faculty (see item 2 below). According to the letter founding the institute, the five faculty members whose tenure homes moved with NSEI from the College of Engineering to the Graduate School will have two years to find departmental homes acceptable to themselves and to their new host departments.

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- Second, the graduate programs in Nuclear Engineering, currently housed in the Graduate School, will remain there as interdisciplinary master's and doctoral degrees in Nuclear Science. The Graduate School will commence a search for a director of the graduate programs, which include master's degrees with

emphases in Health Physics and Medical Physics as well as power-related engineering focuses. The director of the graduate programs will have a tenure home elsewhere but will report to the graduate dean in her or his role as program director. A committee comprising self-identified faculty interested in participating in the program will shape the future goals and curriculum of the master's and doctoral degrees. Current students will continue to be served during and after the transition period, which should be complete by July 1, 2011.

- ~~Third, NSEI will continue Discontinuing this experiment consistent with the terms laid out in the founding documents does not signal an abandonment of research and education in Nuclear Science and Engineering. The founding documents and the 2010 external review alike see the prominence and success of the MU Research Reactor as a unique resource in the state and in the country. a wide range of engaged in nuclear research inas a a new research center, reporting directly to the Vice Chancellor of Research and likely physically housed at the MU Research Reactor. This "Big C Center" will engage researchers from across campus in a structure much like other successful Big C centers at MU (e.g., the Dalton Center). Faculty will affiliate with the Center for research, but salaries and academic homes will be in the various disciplinary departments and colleges.~~

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~~According to the letter founding the institute, the five faculty members whose tenure homes moved with NSEI from the College of Engineering to the Graduate School will have two years to find departmental homes acceptable to themselves and to their new host departments. the graduate programs in Nuclear Engineering, currently housed in the Graduate School, will remain there as interdisciplinary master's and doctoral degrees in Nuclear Science. The Graduate School will commence a search for a director of the graduate programs, which include master's degrees with emphases in Health Physics and Medical Physics as well as power-related engineering focuses. The director of the graduate programs will have a tenure home elsewhere but will report to the graduate dean in her or his role as program director. A committee comprising self-identified faculty interested in participating in the program will shape the future goals and curriculum of the master's and doctoral degrees. Current students will continue to be served during and after the transition period, which should be complete by July 1, 2011.~~

The University of Missouri is confident that research and education into nuclear science will continue to be critical to the future of our nation and our university. Faculty members with tenure homes in NSEI ~~will~~ continue to play a central role in both research and education, and the university commends them for their ongoing success and hard work. The new structure will engage a much larger number of faculty, give them a sense of ownership, and greatly increase MU's research presence in Nuclear Science and Engineering.

