

## COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES and MATHEMATICS

### Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – January 5, 2009

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A meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held Monday, January 5, 2009. All Chairs were present. Dr. John Gale, Chief Technology Officer, Dr. Patrick Desrochers and Carter Walker were guests.

1. Dr. John Gale, UCA Chief Technology Officer, ARE-ON, a consortium of research and education institutions and public service agencies. Dr. Gale stated that every four year university in the state will participate. ARE-ON should be available at UCA possibly by mid fall 2009. Dean Seidman brought up the issue of storage. Discussion followed. The chairs were asked to consider their departments and report back to the Dean's office how ARE-ON may best be put to use. Dr. Gale excused himself.
2. Dr. Desrochers opened a discussion about a research poster day at the capitol in Little Rock. He explained that CUR does this at the capitol in Washington D.C. with a great deal of success. The poster session will be held in conjunction with a poster session coordinated by ASTA, January 26<sup>th</sup>.
3. Carter Walker, CNSM Development Officer, thanked the chairs for their participation in discussing development with the CNSM Advisory Board at the December 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. At that time Carter discussed the details of developing a college hall of fame with the help of the board members. An in depth discussion followed about how departments will choose nominees for the awards, when the awarding ceremony should take place and how the outstanding college recipient will be made. It was agreed that the matter will go before the board for discussion.
4. Dean Seidman asked for ideas for the focus of the next advisory board meeting. Educational programs was agreed upon.
5. Dr. Runge reported that Chemistry chair candidate, Dr. Michael Janusa, will be on campus interviewing January 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>.

Chairs Reports: No departmental reports for this meeting.

## COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES and MATHEMATICS

### Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – February 11, 2009

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A meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held Monday, February 11, 2009. All Chairs were present.

1. Dean Seidman opened the meeting with a discussion about faculty loads. He posed the questions, how workload in each department is defined and what does release time mean in relation to the definitions. A 65%-25%-10% was suggested. Departments need defined workload policies to allow them to document effort on external grants. Dean Seidman excused himself after the discussion to attend a Prospect Meeting.
2. Dr. Frederickson asked the chairs to come up with guidelines for the department and CNSM outstanding alumni. These will be addressed at the Chairs' Retreat in August to identify outstanding department alumni.
3. Dr. Frederickson also asked the chairs to nominate faculty for posters in the front of Lewis Science Center. The posters should be changed every semester.
4. HLC learning outcomes are posted online. This is another topic for the Chairs' Retreat.
5. Dr. Frederickson announced that the internships in Washington, D.C. were also for lab work and not just working for a legislator.
6. CAP Reports should be live by March. Training for advisors will need to be set up.
7. Dr. Runge gave a brief report on the Chemistry chair search.

#### Chairs Reports:

Biology: Dr. Runge reported that Dr. Ginny Adams has been named president elect of the Arkansas chapter of American Fishery Society.

Math: Dr. Garimella reported on the three candidates who have been on campus interviewing for their vacant faculty position.

Computer Science: Dr. Hu reported that U of A professor Dr. Amy Apon is presenting a seminar during X-period February 12<sup>th</sup> in MCST 328. The computer science-Axiom conference will be Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup>.

Physics: Dr. Addison reported that Dr. William Slaton and student Kim Mason are jointly presenting a paper at the national meeting of the American Association of Physics Teachers in Chicago this week. Dr. Addison is participating on a panel about the energy future of Arkansas. The Governor's staff will be attending.

Chemistry: Passed

## COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES and MATHEMATICS

### Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – February 23, 2009

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A meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held Monday, February 23, 2009. All Chairs were present except for Dr. Runge. Dr. Reid Adams represented the Biology department. Dr. Uma Garimella attended representing ACMSE.

1. Dr. Uma Garimella, Director of ACMSE, addressed the council of chairs concerning issues with the center. She provided handouts describing the relationship between ACMSE and the CNSM. Dr. Garimella stressed that the center is an integral part of our college. She asked to be invited to one of each of the department's faculty meetings.
2. Dr. Frederickson announced that CAPP will go live online March 2<sup>nd</sup>. At that time it will only be available to faculty. Dr. Frederickson also requested access to a faculty meeting of each of the departments to discuss CAPP.
3. Dean Seidman asked for suggestions of a date for the spring Advisory Board Meeting. After discussion, the date May 8<sup>th</sup> was decided.
4. Dean Sediman explained the results of the Dean's meeting he attended about graduate faculty status.

#### Chairs Reports:

##### Physics:

Dr. Addison announced that he and Dr. Mehta will take six Physics students to the University of North Texas in Denton, Thursday, February 26<sup>th</sup> through Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, to run accelerator experiments.

##### Chemistry:

Passed.

##### Math:

Dr. Garimella announced that Dr. R. B Lenin has been hired to fill the recent Math department vacancy.

##### Biology:

Passed.

##### Computer Science:

Dr. Hu reported that Drs. Bernard Chen and Sinan Kockara presented at the MidSouth Computational Biology and Bioinformatics Society conference held at Mississippi State University. Dr. Hu also announced that UCA computer science students, Bryan Gerlach and Thomas Winters won second place in the 2009 Axiom Collegiate Programming contest, February 13<sup>th</sup>.

## COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES and MATHEMATICS

### Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – March 9, 2009

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A meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held Monday, March 9, 2009. All Chairs were present.

1. Dr. Frederickson opened the discussion about clickers. Dean Seidman would like for the chairs to identify their needs and adopt a uniform, standardized clickers.
2. The chairs were reminded that it is no longer necessary to turn in Faculty Absence Reports to the Dean's office.
3. The Dean noted that the Academic Integrity Policy would be going to the Faculty Senate soon.
4. Dean Seidman asked the chairs to turn in graduate faculty criteria to the Dean's office.
5. Dean Seidman also asked the chairs to send the Dean's office criteria for the Outstanding Graduate.
6. Faculty evaluations were discussed. The Dean commented on the table Dr. Garimella uses with the Math dept. evaluations and suggested that the other chairs consider it.
7. Ways to support the Arkansas Science Fair were discussed. There is the possibility that Southwest Energy will support the effort. Dean Seidman recommended a full court press on the legislature for support.

#### Chairs Reports:

##### Physics:

Both Drs. Frederickson and Addison reported on the meeting of the Mid-South Chapter of the Acoustical Society of America. UCA hosted the event March 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>.

##### Chemistry:

Dr. Taylor reported that Dr. Desrochers and two UCA Chemistry students, Scott Musial and Brian Besel, recently attended the 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Undergraduate Research Conference at the University of Memphis. Brian Besel was awarded one of five \$200 prizes.

##### Computer Science:

Dr. Hu reported that Computer Science graduate student, Vicky Chen, presented research results at the SIAM Conference on Computational Science and Engineering in Miami, Fl. Two candidates have been interviewed for the open Computer Science position. Drs. Hu, Sun and Ms. Thessing participated in the ACM Computing Science Education Annual Symposium in Chattanooga, TN.

##### Biology:

Dr. Runge reported that the Biology department co-sponsored the Cancer Research Symposium March 6<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Linda deGraffenried from UT Austin

presented a lecture to faculty and students and gave a public presentation the evening of March 6<sup>th</sup>. Drs. Sally Entrekin and Ginny Adams have been awarded a \$140,000 grant from the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission.

Math:

Dr. Garimella reported the the Regional Math Competition, which was held March 7<sup>th</sup> on the UCA campus, was well attended with about 100 high school students. The State Math Competition will be held at UCA April 25<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Carolyn Pinchback attended the RCML Conference in Georgia March 6<sup>th</sup>. The RCML Conference will be held at UCA next Spring.

## COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES and MATHEMATICS

### Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – April 6, 2009

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A meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held Monday, April 6, 2009. All Chairs were present except for Dr. Taylor. Dr. Nolan Carter represented the Chemistry department. Dean Seidman excused himself at 1:30 to attend a Development meeting.

1. The agenda for the College Advisory Board meeting was discussed. Dean Sediman reminded the chairs that the meeting will be Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup> and suggested that either Jerry Mimms or Mark Bland be considered as a presenter.
2. Dean Seidman solicited dates and locations for the upcoming chairs' retreat. It was decided that the retreat will be an overnight trip.
3. Dr. Frederickson asked the chairs to submit departmental stories for the spring newsletter.
4. Graduate faculty status was discussed. New hires will automatically have graduate faculty status for four years. The Biology department guidelines were passed around for review.

#### Chairs Reports:

##### Computer Science:

Dr. Hu reported that the department was unable to secure the preferred candidate and the search will continue.

##### Mathematics:

Dr. Garimella reported that graduate student, Dane Womack, presented a paper at the Oklahoma-Arkansas section of the Mathematical Association of America held at the Southwestern Oklahoma State University last month. UCA will host a mathematical game show, "Who Wants to be a Mathematician" in Dooyne Auditorium April 16<sup>th</sup>. The top prize will be \$2,000. The game is jointly sponsored by the American Mathematical Society and the UCA Math department. Dr. David Peterson will make a presentation on math and music prior to the game. Dr. Garimella also announced that extension funds from ASTA and the UCA foundation have been received to host a summer program for high students from central Arkansas. Three hundred students are expected to participate in the ACTM State Math Contests in Algebra I & II, Geometry, Algebra and Trig, Calculus and Statistics April 25<sup>th</sup> on the UCA campus.

##### Chemistry:

Passed.

##### Biology:

Dr. Runge reported that the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission and Southwest Energy each contributed \$10,000 to the Science Fair, making

it possible to present \$250 for first place, \$125 for second place and \$50 for third place. Twenty-four UCA biology and environmental majors assisted the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service with efforts to eradicate the Northern Snakehead from a watershed in eastern Arkansas. A large group of biology students attended the Arkansas Academy of Science Meeting last month. Graduate student, Carissa Ganong, won first place with a poster. Heather Clark and Kevin McElhanon have been awarded undergraduate research fellowships. Drs. Rowley and Swanson will receive INBRE summer stipends. Drs. Hill, Naylor and Melissa Kelley (Chemistry) were chosen as project leaders of the INBRE Grant Renewal program.

Physics:

Dr. Addison reported that Dr. Debra Burris and undergraduate student, Jeremy Lusk attended the Arkansas Academy of Science. Jeremy won the top prize for outstanding student in the Physics section.

Associate Dean:

Dr. Frederickson reported the he and Dr. Addison attended the Industry and Engineering Forum held April 1<sup>st</sup> in Camden.

## COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES and MATHEMATICS

### Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – May 1, 2009

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A meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held Monday, March 9, 2009. All Chairs were present. Carter Walker, CNSM Development Officer, was also present.

1. The Council of Chairs discussed the concurrent enrollment situation. Dean Seidman urged the chairs to attend the concurrent enrollment meeting with Senator Gilbert Baker Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup> to state the academic case.
2. The chairs were asked to provide the Dean's office a list of planned travel for the coming fiscal year.
3. Dr. Frederickson asked if any problems with closing out the budget for this fiscal year were anticipated.
4. Dean Seidman briefly discussed the upcoming Advisory Board Meeting Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup>. The chairs were reminded to wear their name tags to the meeting. Dr. Paul Young will represent Dr. Hu at the meeting.
5. Dr. Steve Addison will lead the undergraduate line at the May 9<sup>th</sup> commencement. Dr. Frederickson will lead the graduate line.
6. Late book orders were discussed.
7. Dean Seidman discussed the email from Jonathan Glenn concerning setting a new schedule for review of non-accredited CNSM programs

#### Chairs Reports:

##### Physics:

Dr. Addison reported that the digital planetarium show was a success last night and another was being presented the day of the CoC meeting.

##### Computer Science:

Passed.

##### Biology:

Dr. Runge reported that there are signs posted advertising for the new Biology facebook page. Dr. Runge also inquired about the status of the web page.

##### Chemistry:

Passed.

##### Math:

Dr. Garimella reported that graduate students, Ethan Hereath and Taylor Irwin, have been offered graduate research assistantships in the computational engineering Ph.D. program at the University of Chattanooga. Both will receive the MS degree at the end of summer.

## COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES and MATHEMATICS

### Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – August 7, 2009

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A called meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held Monday, August 7, 2009. All Chairs except for Dr. Hu were present.

Dean Runge opened the meeting with the following information items:

Dean Runge recently met with the Graduate Dean Dr. McNiece to discuss continuous enrollment. Dean McNiece will be attending a CNSM CoC in the near future to address issues and questions.

Handouts concerning Board Policy #416 were distributed to the attending chairs. Dean Runge will meet with SPO Director Tim Atkinson for clarification and this will be addressed in a coming CoC.

Dr. Frederickson has information to put together a proposal for the new building.

Dean Runge gave a brief report of the most recent COD which President Meadors attended.

Agenda Items:

1. In the interest of being fully prepared for tenure and/or promotion, Dean Runge urged the chairs to be open, honest and to offer constructive criticism at mid-term reviews. Material is due December 1<sup>st</sup>.
2. Examples of the various departments' Exit Surveys were distributed. Dean Runge expressed an interest in standardizing the survey somewhat and discussion followed. Dr. Mauldin pointed out that asking for the future plans of the graduates and asking for their opinions of the departments strengths and weaknesses were the most important elements that should be included in the survey. He stressed the value of having open ended questions for the students. Dean Runge asked the chairs to consider using "Survey Monkey" to collect data from alumni. It was decided that two separate surveys will be sent. One will ask for names and addresses for contact information and one will not require the person to identify himself. Dr. Addison suggested sending a letter explaining the reason for the surveys before the actual surveys are sent. Dr. Frederickson will request addresses from the Foundation. Dr. Garimella will show Dean Runge how to do the "Monkey Survey."

## COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES and MATHEMATICS

### Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – August 24, 2009

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A meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held Monday, August 24, 2009. All Chairs were present. Dr. Elaine McNiece, Graduate School Dean, was a guest. Drs. Dussourd, Foss and Paruchuri, graduate coordinators, were also present.

#### **Agenda Items:**

1. Dean Runge opened the meeting by introducing Dr. McNiece to the group. Dr. McNiece addressed issues concerning Continuous Enrollment. She then opened the floor to questions from the chairs and graduate coordinators. She asked the chairs to present a program of study to her office. Dean McNiece and the graduate coordinators left after the discussion.
2. Dean Runge spoke briefly about the college losing out on the BBA space. He pressed the chairs to remain diligent in the quest to acquire space when programs around campus are moving.
3. Dr. Fredrickson discussed URC Funding and Student Research. He explained there is \$10,000.00 available in the college for student research. He recommended that it be split in half, offering \$5,000.00 in October and \$5,000.00 in February. Dr. Frederickson would like it capped at \$500.00 and sent before the College Research Committee. Deadlines of October 2 and February 5 were set. Dr. Addison noted that SURF proposals will be due November 1st.

#### **Miscellaneous Announcements and Reminders:**

Dean Runge briefly discussed Provost Grahn's requirements for upcoming faculty positions. This will be discussed in depth in the called CoC August 31<sup>st</sup>.

Concerning budget issues, the Provost is standing by the allocations.

Dean Runge asked the chairs to send their nominations for the Dean's Advisory Board to the Dean's office by Friday, August 28<sup>th</sup>.

Dean Runge asked that all PAFs be prepared on yellow paper.

Dean Runge announced that Dr. Mauldin will coordinate joint sessions with the college's disciplines for working with students on probation.

Dr. Frederickson urged the chairs to find out right away if anyone in their departments plan to travel and to initiate budget adjustments now. He stressed that travel money will no longer come out of the M&O fund.

Dr. Frederickson asked that chairs send newsletter items to Vicky by next Wednesday.

#### **Chairs Reports:**

##### **Physics:**

Dr. Addison reported that he recently spoke with Jamie Stone about study areas available in Conway Hall.

##### **Math:**

Dr. Garimella reported that 10 students, 5 with MAs and 5 with MSs, received

their degrees at the summer commencement. A chapter written by Dr. R.B. Lenin and his colleagues at UALR titled "Open-Source Software Systems; Understanding Bug Prediction and Software Developer Roles" has appeared in the book *Handbook of Research on Software Engineering and Productivity Technologies: Implication of Globalization*, published by IGI Global. Dr. Weijiu Liu's manuscript entitled: "An Introduction to Feedback Control of Distributed Parameter Systems" has been accepted for publication in the "Mathematiques et Applications" series published by Springer under leadership of SMAI. Dr. Danny Arrigo will be on sabbatical Spring '10.

**Computer Science:**

Dr. Hu reported that Computer Science student Christopher Rhodes was selected and participated in the National Science Foundation sponsored Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) program at the University of Houston from 6-8-09 to 8-16-09. He participated in the full cycle of research activities, including problem analysis, design, implementation, evaluation, and publication. He received a stipend of \$4,600 in addition to room and board.

**Chemistry:**

Dr. Mauldin reported that he has implemented lab safety training procedures for Chemistry teaching assistants in accordance with the American Chemical Association.

**Biology:**

Dr. Adams reported that Dr. Sally Entrekin is leading a group of Biology faculty to work with President Meadors' wife on the aquatic features at the President's residence.

## **COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES and MATHEMATICS**

### **Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – August 31, 2009**

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A meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held Monday, August 31, 2009. All Chairs were present.

#### **Agenda Items:**

1. The chairs participated in a CAPP training workshop facilitated by Berdie Eubank, Director of Academic Advising, and CNSM Associate Dean Carl Frederickson. Leigh Ann DenHartog also attended the workshop.
2. Dean Runge asked for suggestions about handling Bear Facts Day Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup>. He pointed out that this year all Bear Facts Days will be held at Brewer Hegeman/Reynolds Hall/Stanley Russ Hall. The chairs discussed a college wide presentation for the event.
3. A spreadsheet of open and upcoming positions with the status of the positions was distributed. Dean Runge reminded the chairs of the search considerations put forth by Provost Grahn.

**No Chairs Reports.**

## **COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES and MATHEMATICS**

### **Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – September 14, 2009**

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A meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held Monday, September 14, 2009. All Chairs were present except for Dr. Addison.

1. The minutes from the August 31, 2009 CoC meeting were approved.
2. Dean Runge reminded the chairs that contingency plans for continuing classes in the event of an influenza outbreak are due to the Dean's office by September 18th. Plans are to include scenarios ranging from students being absent, to faculty absences, all the way through a closure of the University. The Dean also reminded the chairs of the Tenure and Promotion Workshop that is mandatory for all tenured and tenure track faculty, September 17<sup>th</sup> during X-period.
3. The council discussed ways the CNSM can best be represented at upcoming Bear Facts Days. The first Bear Facts Day of this semester is Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup>. These plans are due to the Dean's office by September 18<sup>th</sup>. The Dean indicated that lunch will be provided for all faculty and administrators who participate.
4. Associate Dean Frederickson announced that Provost Grahn wants a college wide travel policy submitted to his office. After a lengthy discussion it was resolved that Dr. Frederickson will draft a policy for the chairs to peruse. It was pointed out that these are university funds, not grant funds. A date will be set in May to submit travel plans for the next fiscal year. Detailed information will be put forth after the policy is revised and accepted by all chairs.

No Chairs Reports.

## COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES and MATHEMATICS

### Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – September 28, 2009

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A meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held Monday, September 28, 2009. All Chairs were present.

#### **Miscellaneous Announcements and Reminders:**

Dean Runge announced that the October 12<sup>th</sup> Council of Chairs will meet at 3:00 p.m. instead of 1:00 p.m.

Dean Runge gave a brief explanation of the luncheon with the Arkansas Game and Fish personnel that was held September 22<sup>nd</sup>. Contacts for internships were discussed.

ADHE's list of cognate programs was discussed.

The Dean commented on the success of Bear Facts Day September 26<sup>th</sup> and asked for suggestions to further engage the students. Dr. Addison recommended assigned seating for the college during lunch. At this point Dr. Addison brought up the subject of a Science, Math and Computer Science Day at UCA and it was agreed upon that LSC and MCST should have students working in the labs when the event is held.

Dean Runge announced that Provost Grahn is receptive to the idea of a CMSM residential college. Deans Roden and Runge have assembled a group to explore the idea.

Dean Runge gave a brief update on the progress of the new science building project.

Dean Runge announced that President Meadors has indicated interest in doubling the summer school program over a 5-year period. Discussion regarding 3-year scheduling plans including summer classes ensued.

Dr. Runge discussed the possibility of partnering with other 4-year campuses to deliver instruction for mid-level and/or secondary science and math degrees.

Dr. Frederickson handed out guidelines for funding travel and asked the chairs to email him comments by Monday, October 12<sup>th</sup>. This will be discussed at the next CoC.

#### **Agenda Items:**

1. Minutes from the September 14, 2009 CoC meeting were approved.
2. Tenure and Promotion guidelines of each CNSM department were dispersed to the chairs. Dean Runge asked the chairs to look over the material and try to establish some common guidelines to be presented to the Tenure and Promotion Committee. The Dean's Advisory Council will be charged with reviewing these guidelines as well.
3. Dr. Frederickson discussed recovery of salary savings from grants. He stressed that money tied open lines (positions) belongs to the Provost, not to the department.
4. Dr. R. Garimella brought up the subject that the Tenure and Promotion Committee should play an active role in the development of tenure-track faculty throughout the probationary period.

5. Dean Runge discussed how enforcing attendance policies might help reduce the number of students on probation.
6. The Top Federal Funding Priorities agenda item was tabled for a future meeting.

### **Chairs Reports:**

#### **Chemistry:**

Dr. Mauldin reported Chemistry is in the midst of hiring a new lab coordinator. Also, the humidity levels of Laney are being addressed.

#### **Physics:**

Dr. Addison reported that at a recent SPS meeting Dr. Menon addressed students on Theoretical Physics research opportunities. Drs. Slaton and Addison spoke about Acoustics research opportunities at the same meeting

#### **Math:**

Dr. Garimella reported that Dr. Donna Foss has had a chapter in *The Purposes, Practices and Professionalism of Teacher Reflectivity: Insights for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Teachers and Students*, a publication of ATE to be published by Rowman & Littlefield in early 2010. Dr. Foss has also been invited to present the chapter at The national conference of the Association of Teacher Educators in Chicago.

Dr. Long Le's paper, in collaboration with B. Pittman of U. of Buffalo, titled "A MODEL FOR GRANULAR FLOWS OVER AN ERODIBLE SURFACE," has been accepted for publication in the SIAM Journal.

Dr. Garimella will be a part of a two-external member team, invited to review the Mathematics programs at the Texas State University at San Marcos during the first week of November.

#### **Computer Science:**

Dr. Hu reported that Dr. Victor Sheng presented a seminar entitled, "Cost-Sensitive Feature Value Acquisition in Testing" on September 25<sup>th</sup> in the Computer Science Department.

#### **Biology:**

Dr. Adams reported that Leah Horton recently met with probationary students with positive results. Biology students manned an Ecology and Environmental Science booth at the Conway EcoFest September 12<sup>th</sup>. Graduate students gave guided tours of the Jewell Moore Nature Reserve. Dr. Ben Rowley gave a presentation at the Great Plains Analytical Cytometry Association Conference at the University of Kansas Medical Center September 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Adams also reported that the Biology office position vacated by Lynn Thomas is in the process in being filled.

# COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES and MATHEMATICS

## Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – October 12, 2009

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A meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held Monday October 12, 2009. All Chairs were present except for Dr. Hu. Dr. Sun represented the Computer Science department.

### **Miscellaneous Announcements and Reminders:**

1. Dean Runge reminded the chairs that there will be a CNSM staff meeting October 15<sup>th</sup> in LSC 104.
2. Dean Runge gave a brief report on his meeting this morning with Provost Grahn concerning a potential CNSM residential college. A projected start date of August 2010 was discussed and the possibility of using Arkansas Hall. The Dean asked the chairs to send ideas for the residential college brochure to Leigh Ann DenHartog.
3. Dean Runge announced that he will be meeting with architect Gene Castin tomorrow to further discuss the site plan for the new planetarium. The survey has been completed.
4. Dean Runge reported that CNSM and COE were the only two colleges to get their federally funded requests to the Provost on time. He complimented the chairs for their swift responses.

### **Agenda Items:**

1. Minutes of the September 28, 2009 CoC meeting were approved as amended.
2. Dean Runge reported that he has met with, and charged, the Curriculum and Assessment Committee, with a special emphasis on assessment. The Dean also charged the Tenure and Promotion Committee to review the department T & P guidelines.
3. The chairs were asked to begin thinking about a CNSM graduation ceremony.
4. Dr. Frederickson discussed salary savings. He asked the chairs to let him know if they had salary savings available and reminded them they cannot buy computers with their salary savings. Dr. Frederickson explained that if the chairs will let him know how they wish to spend the savings he will prepare a budget adjustment and send it through by early November.
5. Both Dean Runge and Dr. Frederickson discussed service agreements explaining that they are coming out of lab fees now. They are set a goal of \$100,00 for catastrophic failure.
6. Dr. Frederickson reminded the chairs to send him feedback for guidelines for funding travel.

### **Chairs Reports:**

#### **Biology:**

Dr. Adams reported that Rachel Roisen has been hired as an administrative specialist in the Biology office.

**Math:**

Dr. Garimella reported that a paper titled "Mixing Enhancement in Enzymatic Chemical Reactions by Optimal Tuning of Flows" by Dr. Weijiu Liu has been Accepted for publication in **Systems & Control Letters**. A paper co-authored by Dr. R. B. Lenin titled "Computing Packet Loss Probabilities of D-BMAP/PH/1/N Queues with Group Services" has been accepted for publication in **Performance Evaluation**. Dr. Garimella also announced that the following new courses have been approved: Math 4316/5316, Fundamentals of Applied Mathematics for Fluid Mechanics and Granular Materials, Math 4330/5330, Math Modeling in Biology. Math 4316/5316 will be offered spring 2010. The bi-weekly math seminar series began September 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Computer Science:**

No Report.

**Physics:**

Dr. Addison attended the American Association of Physics Teachers Regional Meeting in Manhattan, Kansas.

**Chemistry:**

Dr. Mauldin reported that after receiving a \$500,000 grant for new equipment the department is busy trying to locate space. A special topics course, Medicinal Biochemistry, will be team-taught by Drs. Isom, Kelley, Carter and Bridges.

# COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES and MATHEMATICS

## Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – October 26, 2009

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A meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held Monday October 26, 2009. All Chairs were present.

### Miscellaneous Announcements and Reminders:

5. Dean Runge asked the chairs to encourage more students to present in the Chalk Talk series.
6. Dean Runge announced that there would be tables designated for students interested in the CNSM at Bear Facts Day (Saturday October 31) to facilitate conversations between students their parents and the faculty representatives.
7. Dean Runge reported that the CNSM at UCA had the largest contingent at the 2009 INBRE Conference in Fayetteville.

### Agenda Items:

7. Minutes of the September 12, 2009 CoC meeting were approved as amended.
8. Current budget situation was discussed.
9. Summer School
  - a. Summer school compensation will now be the same for on-line and face-to-face courses. Compensation will be based on a percent of the 9-month faculty salary. Departments are going to have more direct control of on-line courses; including control over closing low enrollment courses.
  - b. Spring and summer schedules will go live on Wednesday (10/28). Advisors need to advise students with both spring and summer terms in mind. Summer registration will not be available at this time but students can plan for course that will be offered.
  - c. Departments need to be "prudent" in scheduling summer courses. Student need should be the driving factor in course offerings.
10. Allowing undergraduate seniors to take 6000 level graduate courses for credit was discussed. It was concluded that this was not a good idea. Advanced senior could take 5000 level course work but 6000 level courses are not appropriate for undergraduates.

### Chairs Reports:

#### Biology:

The department is looking into service contracts for the growth chambers. Contract negotiations are underway for two grants from the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission.

There were six SURF proposal submissions from the biology department.

#### Math:

Donna Foss' paper "Narrowing the Gap between a Vision of Reform and Teaching Practice: Middle Level Teacher's Reflections," presented at the *Rocky*

*Mountain Educational Research Association* meeting held in Pensacola, FL received a \$250 cash prize and an invitation to their national conference.

R. B. Lenin's paper "Generalized HPC Simulator for Modeling and Simulation of Job Scheduling Analysis" has been accepted for presentation at the *International Conference on Distributed Computing and Internet Technology (ICDCIT) 2010*.

Dr. R. Govindan, an assistant professor in the Department of Ob/Gyn at UAMS, met with some math/chemistry majors on October 21 and talked about research opportunities in his lab at UAMS.

### **Computer Science:**

Four computer science students led by Dr. Paruchuri participated in the 2009 ACM International Collegiate Programming Contest on October 24<sup>th</sup>. Among the 142 teams from Mid-Central USA UCA ranked 45 and 60.

Dr. Bernard Chen and UCA student Matthew Johnson published an article in BMC Bioinformatics 2009 titled "Protein Local 3D Structure Prediction by Super Granule Support Vector Machines (Super GSVM)."

The Department has generated a short list for the open faculty position and will be conducting phone interviews.

On behalf of ABET/CAC, Dr. Hu visited a computer science program in Colorado October 10<sup>th</sup> through 13<sup>th</sup> to address accreditation.

Computer Science students submitted two SURF proposals.

Graduating seniors will take the Major Field Assessment Test on November 13<sup>th</sup>.

The Department will host the second annual Python Conference on Nov. 14 on MCST 3<sup>rd</sup> floor.

### **Physics:**

Josh Leiblong's poster "Doppler Ultrasound Evaluation of Human Motion" earned 3<sup>rd</sup> place and a \$100 award at the Arkansas INBRE conference.

The Department will be offering two upper division courses in the spring semester that may be of interest to students in other departments. One is a 3-hour electronics course covering analog and digital circuits. The second is a 3-hour biophysics course.

One physics undergraduate student has submitted a SURF proposal.

### **Chemistry:**

On Friday 10/23, three faculty and ten students presented chemical demonstrations to students from two different schools as part of the Bewitching Chemistry program at the Little Rock Museum of Science and Discovery.

A new laboratory coordinator has been hired. Danxia (Dani) Shi started today. There will be a seminar presentation titled "the Impacts of Atmospheric Mineral Dust Aerosol: A Link Between Land, Air, & Oceans" on Tuesday 10/27 during

## COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES and MATHEMATICS

### Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – November 9, 2009

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A meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held Monday, November 9, 2009.

#### **Miscellaneous Announcements and Reminders:**

1. Dean Runge reported that the Provost office support the departments bringing in two candidates for an interview. If more than two are brought in the department will have to bear the expense. He asked that the chairs be fiscally conservative while planning their interviews.
2. Dean Runge reminded the chairs that Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup> is President's Scholars Day.
3. Dean Runge urged the chairs to forward a list of faculty for the Speakers Bureau to Venita Jenkins in the UCA University and Government Relations Office.
4. Provost Grahn wants vitas from all faculty sent to his office. Dean Runge suggested that they pull the ones from the 2008 self-evaluations.
5. Dean Runge requested that the chairs submit names for the Disability Services Review. Three people will be selected to represent CNSM.
6. Dean Runge spoke briefly about President wanting the Ph.D program in Leadership Studies to be re-launched in 2010. Two representatives from each college will form the initial review committee.
7. Non-viable programs were discussed briefly and it was the general consensus that CNSN has no non-viable programs.
8. Dean Runge announced that a meeting of the science/math and education deans from HSU, UAM, UAPB and UCA will take place Tuesday, November 10<sup>th</sup> here on the campus. CNSM faculty involved with science and math education will also attend. The purpose of the meeting will be to open a discussion about dual degree programs offering the opportunity for BS degrees in math or science at a student's home institution and a BSE degree in math or science education at UCA.
9. Dean Runge reminded the chairs to turn in their 3-year degree program plans to the Dean's office as soon as possible.
10. Dean Runge dispelled the current rumor that sabbaticals were not being supported by the administration. Dean Runge stated that Provost Grahn fully supports sabbaticals and that four have recently been recommended by the Sabbatical Leave Committee. These will be presented to the Board of Trustees in February.
11. The graduate school is revisiting their mission statement and welcomes contribution from the colleges.
12. The Provost is requesting new posters for his office. Dean Runge urged the chairs to send clean new ones in order to make a positive impression of CNSM.
13. Dean Runge gave a brief report on the STEM Coalition Board meeting that he attended Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>.
14. Dean Runge will meet Dr. John Ahlen, ASTA President, to discuss the January

presentation on re-shaping STEM education in Arkansas.

### **Agenda Items:**

1. Minutes of the October 26, 2009 CoC were approved as amended.
2. Dean Runge announced that President Meadors has given approval to move ahead with the STEM Residential College. Arkansas Hall will house the college and Dr. Frederickson has been named Rector. The Dean stressed there is much work ahead to make this into a successful endeavor. Dr. Frederickson asked the chairs to be considering nominations for the Residential College Advisory Board.
3. Both Dean Runge and Dr. Frederickson discussed budget issues with the group. The Dean passed out handouts with examples from other universities concerning budget cuts and asked the chairs to consider some of the points in the material. Dr. Frederickson stressed that the chairs should be thinking long term when it comes to the budget cuts and to carefully consider how graduate assistants are utilized. Dr. Frederickson also pointed out that in the past when it came to faculty buy-out time on grants we could ask the Provost for money to replace the faculty time. In the future the replacement costs will come directly from the salary savings.

### **Chairs Reports:**

#### **Physics:**

- Dr. Addison announced that he, Drs. Slaton and Frederickson attended the Midsouth Acoustical Society meeting in Oxford, Mississippi two weeks ago.
- He also announced that UCA will host the next Midsouth Acoustical Society meeting.
- Dr. Addison added that Dr. Heather Woolverton remains in ill health.

#### **Chemistry:**

- Dr. Mauldin announced that the mother-in-law of Chemistry's new laboratory Coordinator, Danxia Shi, recently passed away.
- The Curriculum Committee has completed a draft of their 3-year degree plan.

The plan is functional but it is not for the "faint of heart."

#### **Math:**

- Dr. Garimella announced that he visited Texas State University, San Marcos November 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> as part of an external team to review their Math programs, which included a doctoral program in math education and undergraduate programs in math and math education. Dr. Garimella was elected chair of the external review committee and charged to write the final report.
- Math major Voon Chen, mentored by Dr. Liu, has had her research poster accepted for presentation at the annual joint meetings of AMS and MAA, January 15, 2010 in San Francisco.
- UCA's Math department, in cooperation with ACMSE, will host the Research Council on Mathematics Learning Conference in March 2010 on the UCA campus. Dr. Pinchback, associate vice president for RCML conferences, is instrumental in bringing the conference to UCA.

- UAF faculty member, Dr. Giovanni Petris will be here November 17<sup>th</sup> to present a talk titled, "A Random Walk to the Top." The presentation will take place during X-period with a discussion about UAF's Ph.D program in Mathematics and Statistics.

**Biology:**

- Dr.Adams reported the Curriculum is making progress with the 3-year degree Program.
- The Biology department is working on replacing the non-thesis track of the MS in Biology with a MA degree.
- A draft of the continuous enrollment policy has been sent to Dean McNiece.

**Computer Science:**

- Dr. Hu reported that the Computer Science department received a \$500 Scholarship from the Arkansas Academy of Computing designated to Dr. Hu's CS 0 class to encourage students to major in Computer Science. The scholarship will be awarded by the end of this semester.
- November 6<sup>th</sup> the Computer Science Club had its fall events. Students played Tech Jeopardy, the game Deathmatch vs. professor, and had programming contests. The prizes included USB drives, wireless mice, and a remote control helicopter to the first place winner of the contest. Drs. Paruchuri and Chen are faculty advisors of student activities of the Computer Science Department.

## COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES and MATHEMATICS

### Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – November 16, 2009

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A called meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held Monday, November 16, 2009.

#### **Miscellaneous Announcements and Reminders:**

1. Dean Runge announced that President Meadors wants the concurrent enrollment program to be self-sufficient. To this end students or their school will be required to pay \$30.00 per course. Under the law the instructor of a concurrent course must have a Masters degree or 18 hours in the discipline.
2. Dean Runge urged the chairs to move forward in getting the ads placed for the completed AA1s that were returned to the various departments last week.
3. Dean McNiece is preparing another Title 3 grant. The chairs were asked to be thinking about their ideas and needs.
4. An URSA upgrade will be installed in December and Banner 8 will be installed over 2010 spring break.
5. The INBRE renewal has received a very favorable review and it is likely to be funded. We have the project leaders on the proposal (Drs. Hill, Naylor, Kelley) and a construction project in Biology.
6. Dean Runge reminded the chairs that Envirothon will take place November 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>.

#### **Agenda Items:**

1. Minutes from the November 9, 2009 CoC meeting were approved as amended.
2. The Dean's Advisory Council recently made changes to the Self Evaluation Forms. Copies were distributed to the chairs. In addition to the council's changes the chairs offered other ideas for changes to make the form more serviceable. The Dean asked the chairs to be cautious when considering the student evaluations, which will be on-line for the first time this fall.
3. Dean Runge reported that the November 10<sup>th</sup> meeting with science/math and education deans from HSU, UAM, UAPB, and UCA was a success. The topic of the meeting was dual degree programs offering the opportunity for BS degrees in math or science at a student's home institution and a BSE degree in math or science education at UCA. Another meeting will take place in December with the same team and also including SAU. Dean Runge asked the chairs to send their degree plans and follow up with the ideas on how to integrate the framework with the other schools involved.
4. Dr. Addison reported that the STEM Residential College was of great interest to those attending the President's Scholars Day Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup>. Dean Runge reiterated that Dr. Carl Frederickson has been appointed as Rector of the Residential College and will be CNSM's direct interface with undergraduate studies and the academic community as a whole. He pressed the chairs to be forthcoming with concerns, ideas or issues concerning the residential college. At

this point Dean Runge turned the floor over to Dr. Frederickson. Dr. Frederickson handed out a draft email to be sent to the CNSM faculty and staff inviting them to a planning meeting for the residential college. The meeting will take place November 18<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. in LSC 168. Dr. Frederickson emphasized that the venture will be a partnership between CNSM and Undergraduate Studies. Criteria for admission were discussed as well as community building activities. Service learning will be one component of the program in the new STEM RC.

5. 3-year degree programs were discussed along with the expansion of science offerings for summer school.

### **Chairs Reports:**

#### **Biology:**

- Dr. Adams reported that Dr. Ginny Adams took 8 Biology students to the Southeastern Fishes Council Meeting in Alabama. Dr. G. Adams received the Most Fecund Lab Award. UCA students made 5 oral presentations and 2 posters. Clint Johnson received the 3<sup>rd</sup> place award for Best Oral Presentation.
- Dr. John Choinski will present a seminar November 19<sup>th</sup> in LSC 101.

#### **Math:**

- Dr. Garimella reported that Math major Jackson Fliss, mentored by Dr. Arrigo, has had his research poster accepted for presentation at the annual joint meetings of AMS and MAA, January 15, 2010 in San Francisco.
- The Math department's request to convert an instructor position to a Lecturer position has been approved. A search will be conducted ASAP.
- The Math department has admitted a new MS student in Applied Mathematics with an assistantship for spring 2010.

#### **Physics:**

- Dr. Addison reported that on a recent trip to Magnolia he and Dr. Frederickson had the opportunity to meet with the Deputy Director of NSF Undergraduate Education. Potential grant proposals were discussed.
- Dr. Slaton presented a paper last week at the NSTA meeting in Florida.

#### **Computer Science:**

- Dr. Hu reported that the Computer Science department hosted the 2009 Python Regional Conference November 14<sup>th</sup>. About 80 people participated in the conference. Lecturers came from Kansas, New York and Texas. Drs. Hu and Chen were among the instructors at the conference.
- Dr. Raj Jain, professor of Computer Science and Engineering, at Washington University in St. Louis visited the UCA campus November 12<sup>th</sup> and met with Computer Science students. Dr. Jain, a Fellow of IEEE of ACM, presented a Seminar titled "Internet 3.0."

#### **Chemistry:**

- Dr. Mauldin reported that Dr. Taylor was nominated to serve as an external reviewer for the chemistry department at Southeastern Oklahoma University.