

COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCE and MATHEMATICS

Minutes of Council of Chairs Meeting – August 17, 2015

A meeting of the Council of Chairs of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held on Monday, August 17, 2015. Stephen Addison presided, members present: Ginny Adams, Jeff Allender, Pat Desrochers, Ramesh Garimella, Uma Garimella, Brent Hill, and William Slaton (for C. Frederickson). Members absent: Carl Frederickson

Agenda Items:

- Dean Addison welcomed the Office of Admissions and opened discussion about the highlights of our programs to be used when recruiting new students. Admissions staff present: Chris Riggins-Associate Director of Admissions, Latisha Standokes-Sr. Assistant Director of Admissions, Tyler Bittle-River Valley, Ericka Gutierrez-Central Arkansas, Ellen Jeffus-Dallas, Doneshia Moore-Central Arkansas, and Emily Beane-Southwest Arkansas and Texarkana.
 - J. Allender discussed the reintroduction of Geography to Middle School curriculums and the Geography Department's move to the CNSM.
 - R. Garimella discussed different Mathematics tracks including Pure Math, Applied Math and STEMteach options. He also discussed programs available in Computer Science including the MS in Applied Computing.
 - P. Desrochers discussed the Chemistry tracks and handed out an information sheet with recent highlights from the Department of Chemistry.
 - S. Addison discussed research opportunities and the CNSM's investment in our students through papers, posters, and conferences.
 - G. Adams discussed the Environmental Science program and underscored the fact that UCA graduates are widely represented and go directly into the job market upon graduation.
 - W. Slaton discussed Physics programs and their work towards starting an engineering program. Physics students from UCA are getting accepted into top schools and getting paid to go.
 - B. Hill discussed programs in Biology such as the Bio-Medical sciences and Pre-Professional programs. He also emphasized the importance of involving students in research and outreach.
- Dean Addison announced that the CNSM will have two representatives at all the fall recruiting events and encouraged the chairs to sign up for the events they would like to attend.

Other Items:

- Dean Addison handed out a report on available Professional Development Funds and informed chairs that the money would be transferred by the Dean's office to the Departments as requested. He advised chairs to put in their requests as soon as possible as long as they could be justified as professional development.
- Dean Addison handed out a report on the allocation of summer funds and informed chairs that the amounts in the 4th column would be transferred to M&O lines in the next week or so.
- Dean Addison informed chairs that due to the construction around Lewis Science Center, parking would be at a premium once the fall semester starts. UCA PD are already writing warning tickets and towing would begin on Thursday.

- Dean Addison led a discussion on having a more in-depth meeting to discuss future plans and strategic planning for the CNSM. A retreat was set for September 18th and chairs were asked to send in a list of topics to discuss by the end of the week.

Chair Reports: No Chair Reports