

COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES and MATHEMATICS

Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – February 25, 2013

A meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held Monday, February 25, 2013. All chairs were present.

Agenda Items:

1. Minutes from 2-4-13 CoC were approved as amended.
2. Dean Addison announced that he had meet with Leigh Ann DenHartog to discuss the boot camp for incoming freshman and how to keep costs down.
3. Dean Addison discussed concerns regarding the starting date of student employees. Dr. Addison reminded the chairs that all hiring paperwork must be completed and approved before the student can begin work.
4. Dean Addison asked the chairs to check their calendars for availability for May 17th to meet with the advisory board to discuss their ideas and concerns.
5. Dean Addison asked the chairs to keep the student research fund requests coming and that he would send out guidelines to the chairs. Dr. Adams mentioned that every student organization/ club could apply for a student research fund request of \$1,000 each semester.

Miscellaneous Announcements and Reminders:

1. Dean Addison announced that STEMteach enrollment is up to 48 this semester.
2. Dean Addison reminded the chairs that mid-tenure reviews are due March 1st and position requests are due March 15th.
3. Dean Addison stated that the lottery scholarship is expected to impact enrollments.
4. Dean Addison asked chairs to remind the faculty that the deadline to input into Digital Measures is March 4th.
5. Dean Addison announced that the two recruiting UCA Nights would be March 12th at Woody's Sherwood Forest in Sherwood and March 26th at Pulaski Tech south campus from 6 p.m. - 8p.m.
6. Dean Addison discussed the possibility of STEM Scholarships. He asked the chairs for input on the matter.

Chairs Reports:

Biology:

- Dr. Cash reported that the on-campus interviews for the population genetics faculty position would be done by next week.
- Graduate student Kyle Hurley has been invited to be part of a symposium in China.

Chemistry:

Dr. Mauldin reported three faculty members (Drs. Rick Tarkka, Patrick Desrochers, and Lei Yang) and seven students (listed below) participated in the 33rd Annual Undergraduate Research Conference at the University of Memphis Department of Chemistry on Saturday, February 26, 2013. The conference involved 14 schools from seven states throughout the Southeastern United States. UCA research student Ryan Rogers, under the direction of Dr. Desrochers, won one of only five \$200 awards for best presentation.

- Laney Mason (Tarkka)
"Polymerization of Phenylacetylenes by Rhodium(I) Scorpionate Catalysts"
- Elisabeth Collins (Tarkka)
"Synthesis of Boron-Centered Heteroscorpionates by Metathesis Reactions of LiTp* with Heterocycles"
- Mishal Benson (Tarkka)
"Color Chemistry as a Theme for Chemical Education: Lessons from Natural Dyes and Dyeing"
- T. Ryan Rogers (Desrochers)
"Fast, Functional Immobilized Metal-centers on Solid Supports"
- Claire Desrochers (work with Dr. Kevin Raney at UAMS)
"The Investigation of Gold Nanoparticle Delivery of HCV Antisense Agents"

- Julie Davis (Desrochers)
"Amino Acid Selectivity of Immobilized Ligand Nickel Complex:
Quantitative NMR with Histidine and Serine Methyl Esters"
- Ethan McMoran (Yang)
"Synthesis and characterization of Transition Metal Complexes Supported
by Pyridylamide Ligands"

Computer Science:

- Dr. Hu reported that a fund request has been submitted to Google.
- Graduate student Mitchell presented his Master's thesis on February 22nd.

Math:

- Dr. Garimella reported that Dr. Jason Martin and his graduate student Ms. Kartika Chhetri presented a paper last week at the RUME Conference in Denver.
- The Math Department concluded the on-campus interviews last week. The department is awaiting approval from the Provost to extend offers.
- Dr. Linda Griffith is scheduled to teach EDUC 1301- Knowing and Learning for UCA STEMteach.
- AUTIS agreed to fund \$2,000 for the 2013 MSIT Summer camp.

Physics:

- Dr. Fredericksom reported that Dr. Debra Burris received a renewal of a grant "EPSCoR Communication Internal Renewal." This is part of the State's NSF EPSCOR ASSET II program. The grant for \$15,600 will support a communications intern at the office of the Arkansas Science and Technology Authority.