

COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES and MATHEMATICS

Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – February 2, 2014

A meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held Monday, February 3, 2014. All chairs were present.

Agenda Items:

1. Minutes from the 11-11-13 CoC meeting were approved as amended.
2. Assessment was discussed. Revised assessment plans with comments need to go back through the process.
3. Dean Addison asked the chairs to get staffing requests to the Dean's office by the end of February. A discussion about centralized scheduling of rooms followed.
4. Dean Addison informed the council that the status of the LSC project would be on the agenda of the next Board of Trustees meeting. Dr. Addison has been asked to prepare a statement concerning the needs of the building.
5. Undergraduate bulletin updates were discussed. Dean Addison asked the chairs to get their updates in right away. The updates were due in December.

Miscellaneous Announcements and Reminders:

1. Dean Addison asked the chairs to get their plans together for the senior capstone courses. They should be submitted to Joanna Castner-Post by April 14, 2014.
2. Dean Addison reminded the council of the Posters at the Capitol coming up February 12th.
3. Dean Addison also reminded the chairs to send in their Capital Project needs.
4. Associate Dean Ginny Adams reminded the chairs that it is time to nominate the Outstanding University Student for CNSM. She asked that both the nominated student and the Dean's office be notified by February 14th. Completed application packets are due by Friday, February 21st. The chairs should make sure the student meets the criteria. The CNSM Outstanding University Student will be recognized at the spring commencement ceremony.
5. Dr. Adams reported on the CLAD (College Level Associate/ Assistant Deans) meeting that she attended immediately preceding the CoC meeting. Sponsored Programs is pushing to get more grants and looking to facilitate inter-departmental collaborations.

Chairs Reports:

Biology:

- Dr. Cash reported that the Biology department is beginning on-campus interviews with candidates for the Animal Physiologist position.
- The Search Committee is currently reviewing applications for the Cellular Biologist position.
- The third staff position in the Biology office has been filled by Angela Elliott.

Chemistry:

- Dr. Mauldin announced that he is returning to full-time faculty status effective July 1, 2014. Dr. Mauldin expressed appreciation for working with members of the CoC during his five-year tenure as chair of the Department of Chemistry.

Computer Science:

- Dr. Frederickson reported that Christopher Mitchell, Dr. Chenyi Hu, Dr. Bernard Chen, Michael Nooner and Dr. Paul Young have had a paper accepted for the 2014 International Conference on Computational Science and Computational Intelligence, March 10-13, 2014, Las Vegas, titled *A Computational Study of Interval-Valued Matrix Games*.

Math:

- Dr. Ramesh Garimella reported that the Department of Mathematics has received over 100 applications for the open tenure track position. The Search Committee narrowed the pool down to four candidates for an on-campus interview. Interviews will be scheduled as soon as possible.
- Ms. Crystal Spellman has been hired as an adjunct faculty member for spring 2014.

Physics:

- Dr. Frederickson reported that Dr. Andrew Mason presented, at the American Association of Physics Teachers winter meeting, a contributed talk titled *Problem Solving Reflection: Homework Versus In-Class Problem Solution* and a poster titled *Online Physics Problem Solving Frameworks: High School and University Level Implementation*. Mishal Benson was also an author and also presented an invited talk titled *Graduate Education in Physics: Problem Solving, Curriculum and Approaches to Problem Solving*.
- Dr. Azida Walker and six female physics students; Shelby Burns, Ashley Cotnam, Rebecca Brinker, Sarah Spellman, Kayla Waters, Cassie Lange, Erika

Sparkman, and Shannon Donahue, attended the Women in Physics conference at LSU, January 16th -19th.

STEM Institute:

- Dr. Uma Garimella reported that she arranged a meeting on January 22nd between UCA (Drs. Runge, Addison and Pounder), ADE and ADHE to explore how universities can help the P-16 Pipeline.
- On February 22nd the UCA STEM Institute is offering ETA (Educational Teaching Aids) Hands2Mind professional development training for teachers of grades 3 through 5.
- The STEM Institute is hosting the AP Science Super Saturday February 15th in the Business Building on campus.
- The STEM Institute is working with the departments of chemistry, biology, mathematics and the faculty of the College of Education to offer two-week science, math and literacy integrated concepts for middle grade teachers.
- The STEM Institute has submitted a proposal for robotics.