

COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES and MATHEMATICS

Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – March 11, 2013

A meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held Monday, March 11, 2013. All chairs were present except for Dr. Frederickson. Dr. William Slaton represented the Physics department.

Agenda Items:

1. Minutes from the 2-25-13 CoC were approved as amended.
2. Dean Addison discussed INBRE equipment grants. He distributed NIH guidelines and some proposals.
3. Digital Measures was discussed. Dr. Adams reported that there has been a good response. She asked the chairs to pull their reports and get them to her so that she can evaluate your progress.

Miscellaneous Announcements and Reminders:

1. Dean Addison reminded the chairs of the Internship Banquet on March 14th in the Student Center Ballroom.
2. Dean Addison announced that the STEMteach minor was approved by the Council of Deans and will be considered at the next Board of Trustees meeting.

Chairs Reports:

Biology:

- Dr. Cash reported that the Biology Department has successfully completed two searches and is now in the process of another search.
- The niece of Jewell Moore has been in contact with Dr. Cash regarding donating Dr. Moore's papers and work to the UCA Biology department.

Chemistry:

- Dr. Mauldin reported that Dr. Conrad Stanitski, UCA Chemistry Department Chair from 1992-2005, was awarded the 2013 George Pimentel Award in Chemical Education. After receiving his Ph.D. at the University of Connecticut in 1971, Stanitski joined the faculty at Georgia State University. He moved to Randolph Macon in 1971 and later served as an American Council on Education

fellow in academic administration at Franklin and Marshall. He became Provost at Mount Union College in 1988 and Chemistry Chair at UCA in 1992. Since his retirement from UCA in 2005, he has served as a visiting scholar at Franklin and Marshall. In addition to his roles as chemistry professor and administrator, Stanikski has been influential nationally as an author. He has authored or co-authored a number of textbooks including two sponsored by the ACS: Chemistry in the Community and Chemistry in Context. He has served administratively as chair of the ACS Division of Chemical Education, Project Kaleidoscope, the Chemical Heritage Foundation and a number of ACS committees. He and his wife, Barbara, are currently retired in Lancaster, PA. As Jerry Manion, Chair of the Department of Chemistry at UCA from 1965-1992 pointed out, "If you don't know the Pimentel award, it is the most prestigious award granted each year in the area of Chemical Education so this is no trivial thing. It brings honor to him and also to our department."

Computer Science:

- Dr. Hu reported that the Council of Undergraduate Research informed Dr. Paul Young that the student project he directed on *Validating for Interoperability an Object-Based Model* has been selected for the Poster on the Hill. Among over 800 submissions, only 60 were selected.
- Ms. Karen Thessing and two female Computer Science students participated in the Women in Information Technology event at UAF on March 8th. Ms. Thessing is the faculty mentor for the UCA student chapter of the ACM-W and leads the UCA project funded by the National Center for Women in IT.
- Several Computer Science students participated in the Start Up Arkansas, an event for innovation and entrepreneurship, on March 1st at Hendrix College.
- Data-Tronics has continued its contribution of \$500.00 to the Computer Science Scholarship fund.

Math:

- Dr. Garimella reported that the Math Department successfully concluded three tenure-track searches this spring. As a result the following will join the department in August 2013:
 - Dr. Jeffrey Beyerl (Ph.D. from Clemson; Area: Discrete Math and Number Theory)
 - Ms. Jerilynn Lepak (to receive Ph.D. from Michigan State in May 2013; Area: Mathematics Education)
 - Mr. Matthew Thomas (to receive Ph.D. from University of Arizona in May 2013; Area: Mathematics Education)
- Ms. Kritika Chhetri, a graduate student in the MA Mathematics Education program, has been offered an annual assistantship of \$17, 525 to pursue a doctoral degree in mathematics education at the University of Northern Colorado starting this fall. Currently, Kritika is working on her master's thesis

under the direction of Dr. Jason Martin. FYI-the department created a master's thesis track in the MA program last year. Kritika will be the first student in this track and is planning to graduate at the end of this coming summer.

- Dr. Jean McGehee received a \$55,361 grant from the Arkansas Department of Higher Education for her project *Algebra & Geometry in Vertical Teams Grades 8-11*. The objective of the grant is to provide professional development for 20 geometry and algebra teachers during summer 2013. This is a second ADHE grant for Dr. McGehee in as many years.
- Mr. Ezechiel Degny, an MS student mentored by Dr. Clarence Burg, is scheduled to defend his masters' thesis, *Derivative-Based Gauss-Legendre and Midpoint Quadrature Rules*, on March 13, 2013.

Physics:

- No report.