

COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES and MATHEMATICS

Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – April 21, 2014

A meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held Monday, April 21, 2014. All chairs were present.

Agenda Items:

1. Minutes from the 3-17-14 CoC were approved as amended.
2. Equity was discussed.
3. Dean Addison disturbed information on eliminating and phasing out the BSE programs.
4. Dean Addison gave an update on the Cyber Discovery Workshop held Saturday, April 12th.
5. Programs of Distinction were discussed.
6. Concurrent enrollment was discussed.
7. The topic of the Geography Department joining the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was discussed.

Miscellaneous Announcements and Reminders:

1. Item 1.

Chairs Reports:

Biology:

- No report.

Chemistry:

- Dr. Mauldin reported that on April 17th the Department of Chemistry met to discuss undergraduate students' applications for available research positions in the labs. A total of 29 students applied and 23 were accepted. Of the 6 students who were not accepted, 3 students did not want to complete the entire application and 3 students completed the application yet were not able to be placed at this time.

Computer Science:

- No report.

Math:

- Dr. Garimella reported that after 29 years of excellent service to UCA, Dr. Steve Butcher is retiring at the end of this spring semester.
- Dr. Pat Carmack received an extension of his NIH Grant through March 2015 to continue his work on *Integrating Multimodal Brain Imaging Data to Assess Subtle Cognitive Impairment*. The amount of the funding is \$54,461. It is a joint project with University of Texas at Dallas.
- Dr. Matt Thomas has resigned his tenure-track position.
- On April 26th, approximately three hundred students from across the state will come to UCA to compete in the ACTM State Math Contest.
- The 2014 Math Student Awards are as follows:
 - O.L. Hughes Award for outstanding senior: Kris Hollingsworth and Brandon Ashley are co-recipients.
 - Dorothy Long Award for outstanding junior female: Hannah Middleton (BSE).
 - Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Award: Zack Pharam (MS, expected in May 2014).
- Three math students presented at the 76th Annual Meeting of the Oklahoma-Arkansas Section of the Mathematical Association of America held at Harding University in Searcy, AR on April 5th. Mathematics Education majors Chase Roberts and Sarah Zimmerman a poster entitled *Modeling in Calculus Using Approximation Curriculum: A Close Look at a Derivative Lab*. MAT graduate student Jordan Karpe presented a paper entitled *Reinventing a Definition for Sequence Convergence: Knowing vs. Understanding*. Dr. Jason Martin mentored all three students.
- There are 20 GTA applicants (7 returning and 14 new) for both MA and MS programs for the AY 2014-15. Recommendations will be made soon.
- The Math Department plans to offer the following outreach summer programs for high school students:
 - MSIT (July 14-18).
 - Algebra Prep – track 1 and 2 (June 9th – July 3rd).

Physics:

- No report.

STEM Institute:

- Dr. Uma Garimella reported that the STEM Institute would host the Science Literacy Workshop, with presenters from the University of California-Berkley, on May 3, 2014.

- The institute is receiving invitations from North East educational cooperatives to cooperatives to conduct Pre-AP training for their teachers.