

COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCE and MATHEMATICS

Minutes of Council of Chairs Meeting - February 4, 2019

A meeting of the Council of Chairs of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held on Monday, February 4, 2019. Stephen Addison presided; members present: Ginny Adams, Pat Desrochers, Carl Frederickson, Ramesh Garimella, Uma Garimella, Brent Hill, and Steve O'Connell. Members absent: Emre Celebi. Guests: Bernard Chen – representing Computer Science, Kimberly Klotz, Erica Ruble, and Seth Foley from University Marketing and Communications.

Agenda Items:

1. A team from University Marketing and Communications updated council on available services and how to request them.
2. Minutes from January 28, 2019 meeting were approved with minor revisions.
3. Dean Addison asked chairs to turn in their position requests for new and replacement faculty by February 18th.
4. Dean Addison asked chairs to turn in their capital requests by February 25th. Discussion followed on priority needs such as new seating in all our large classrooms.
5. Dean Addison reported that the Provost Town Hall meeting went well and that a recording of the meeting is available for those who were unable to attend.
6. Dean Addison led a general discussion on ongoing issues in our college including meta majors, Math Pathways, pre-requisites, student success, and supplemental instruction.

Other Items/Announcements

- Ginny Adams reminded council that several scholarship and award application deadlines are approaching.
- Ginny Adams announced that the Girl Power in STEM volunteer form is now open and asked that council encourage students to sign up.
- Dean Addison updated council on the Honorary Degree policy and asked that council be thinking of people we could nominate. The deadline is March 25th.

Chair Reports:

Biology

Dr. Hill reported:

- No Report.

Chemistry

Dr. Pat Desrochers reported:

- No Report.

Computer Science

Dr. Emre Celebi reported:

- No Report.

Geography

Dr. Stephen O'Connell reported:

- Matthew Connolly had the following invited entry published:
 - Connolly, M. 2018. "Statistics & GIS." In Varela, S. L., ed., *The Encyclopedia of Archeological Sciences*. Wiley-Blackwell: Hoboken, NJ.
- Stephen O'Connell recently completed a tourism feasibility study for a proposed "Little Dam Bridge" in Morrilton. The project was initiated by the Morrilton Area Chamber of Commerce and jointly funded by the City of Morrilton and Arkansas Parks & Tourism.
- Brooks Pearson had the following article published:
 - Ways, B.* and B. Pearson. 2018. "Assessing the Usefulness of CCTV in Baltimore City, Maryland." *Journal of Strategic Innovation and Sustainability*, 13 (5): 127-40.

Mathematics

Dr. Ramesh Garimella reported:

- Mathematics major, Monica Davanzo, and her faculty mentor, Yinlin Dong, received a SURF Research Award for the Academic Year 2018-19 from the Arkansas Department of Higher Education for their project, "Weak Galerkin Finite Element Methods for Poisson's Equations on Quadrilateral Grids."
- Yinlin Dong presented a talk titled, "An Adoptive Moving Grid Method," at the 2019 Joint
- Mathematical Meetings in Baltimore.
- Todd Abel presented an invited talk, "Modeling Astronomy with Trigonometry: Ancient Mathematical Modeling," at the Teaching Contemporary Mathematics Conference in Raleigh, NC on January 27-28, 2019.
- Graduate student, Scarlett Nestlehut, and Todd Abel had a poster accepted for the 2019 Research in Undergraduate Mathematics Education (RUME) conference in Oklahoma based on Scarlett's thesis research - "Impact of Historical Mathematical Problems on Student Metaperspectives of Mathematics".
- Three math education tenure track candidates had campus interviews last week.
- A paper, "Examining the Changes in Prospective Teachers' Knowledge on Writing Story Problems for Fraction Number Sentences," co-authored by Nesrin Sahin, James Fetterly and graduate student, Wesley Martsching appeared in the *International Journal of Educational Studies in Mathematics*.
- James Fetterly was invited to give a keynote speech at the ACTM Math Contest. The title of his presentation was Developing Mathematical Talent.

Physics

Dr. Carl Frederickson reported:

- No Report.

STEM Institute

Dr. Uma Garimella reported:

- No Report.

Development Officer

Aimee Poynter reported:

- No Report.