

## **COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES and MATHEMATICS**

### **Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – April 15, 2013**

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A meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held Monday, April 15, 2013. All chairs were present except for Dr. Mauldin. Dr. Bill Taylor attended representing the Chemistry Department. Associate Dean Dr. Ginny Adams was also absent.

#### **Agenda Items:**

1. Approval of the 4-1-13 CoC minutes were approved as amended.
2. The location of the new science building was discussed. Dean Addison asked the building sub-committee, composed of himself, Dr. Frederickson and Dr. Cash, to reconvene. He asked that another CNSM faculty member be added to the committee.
3. A limited discussion of the college identity: marketing, profile and visibility took place and it was decided that an in-depth discussion of the subjects would take place at the Chairs' Retreat this summer.
4. The development of a responsible living class to meet general education requirements for CNSM was discussed. Dean Addison pointed out that flexible requirements were needed. Several examples were mentioned such as global issues from STEM perspectives, climate control and gun control. Dean Addison asked the chairs to nominate faculty to serve on a committee to study and develop STEM general education courses. The course should be ready to go to the Curriculum Committee by this fall.

#### **Miscellaneous Announcements and Reminders:**

1. Dean Addison reminded the chairs to send their summer plans to the Dean's Office so that the Chairs' Retreat can be planned. Early August was suggested as a date.
2. Dean Addison reminded the chairs that it is time to put together the UTeach version of their departments.

#### **Chairs Reports:**

##### **Biology:**

- No report.

## Chemistry:

- No report.

## Computer Science:

- Dr. Hu reported that two groups of Computer Science students, directed by Drs. Sinan Kockara and Tansel Halic, participated in the Microsoft 2013 Imagine Cup. Students in project titled *Melanoma Lesion Detection Using Mobile Infrared Thermography* are Aaron Crawford, Cody Hudson, and Alex Loney. The project is ranked among the top 25 in the nation. Students in another project titled *The BearClaw: Mobile Mixed Reality System for Physical and Occupational Therapies* are Kyle Eichelberger, Michelle Enfinger, Ben Tackett, and John White.

## Math:

- Dr. Garimella reported that Ms. Whitney Burrow, a graduate student in the MA program, has been offered a 12-month stipend of \$20,700.00 to pursue a doctoral degree in statistics at Baylor University. Whitney is expected to receive her MA degree this spring commencement.
- Ms. Kritika Chhetri, a graduate student in the MA program, presented a paper entitled *Modeling Riemann Sum: A Journey from Informal to More Formal Mathematics* at the 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the OK-AR Section Meeting of MAA.
- A graduate student in the MS program, Ms. Xiaowei Hu, mentored by Dr. R.B. Lenin, is scheduled to defend her thesis on April 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Dr. Jason Martin, Assistant Professor of Mathematics, made a presentation at the 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the OK-AR Section Meeting of MAA. The presentation was entitled *What Reinvention Might Look Like in the Classroom: A Classroom Reinvention of a Formal Sequence Convergence Definition*. Dr. Martin also chaired a session in Research in Mathematics Education.
- The 2013 Math Student Awards are as follows:
  - 2013 Dorothy Long Award: Sonia Coulibaly, a junior in the applied mathematics program.
  - 2013 O.L. Hughes Award: Haley Lafoon, a senior math major.
  - 2013 Outstanding Graduate Student Award: Rosalind Phillip.

## Physics:

- Dr. Frederickson reported that Drs. William Slaton and Stephen Addison traveled with seven physics majors, Ashley Hicks, Shelby Burns, Justin Mann, Matthew Sisson, Jerrod Ward, Tristan Odekirk, and Bryan Wofford, to attend the joint Spring 2013 meeting of the Texas Section of the American Physical Society, the American Association of Physics Teachers, and the Society of Physics Student's Zone 13 meetings. Each of the students presented a poster at the

meeting.

- Four physics majors have accepted REU positions for this summer:
  - John Ferrier will be working at Harvard University.
  - Jeremy Jacobs will be working at the University of Arkansas-Fayetteville.
  - Nicholas Frederickson and Lawrence Benzmilller will be working at the University of Arkansas-Little Rock.