Biology Department Faculty Meeting –2/15/17

1. Schedule Changes
* Dean’s Office is pickier about departments sticking to scheduling grid
	+ Not enough classrooms on campus due to influx in students
	+ Bio classes were on TTh 3 times more than MWF due to instructor preference
	+ 
	+ We must stick to scheduling grid
	+ Instructors of like-courses must communicate with each other to fairly divide teaching times
1. Cutting the university budget by $25 mil.
* Faculty positions will not be cut
* Staff positions will be evaluated
* Jack Mansour’s position will not be filled
* Cuts are across entire university
1. New Retirement Plan for TT faculty
	* The college had a plan to be proposed, but it was rejected
	* Talks of Long-Term Lecturer retirement plan has ended because it will be part of the CBA
2. Microscopes
	* Mierisch: Faculty members contributed to new confocal microscope proposal
		+ Existing one is glitch and image quality is poor
		+ Loyola agreed to fund 1/3 of the cost; NSF the other 2/3
	* Wishes include new TEM and SEM microscopes
		+ Biology has competing proposal for SEM with Chemistry
	* May be possible to come up with resources for Micro CT Scanner over time
3. Employee Changes
	* Brann will be resigning from her post
	* Doering is retiring next year
	* Both a Neuroscience and Genetics position will have to be filled
4. Promotion and Tenure
	* Next year: 2 faculty members are up for tenure, 3 for 3rd year reviews
	* Voting ballots will be sent out for the next faculty meeting
	* Let Jim know by April 19th if you are seeking promotion
	* We are still awaiting news on 2 lecturer promotions
5. LUROP Information
	* LUROP application deadline is March 1st
	* Encourage students to get their applications in
	* 75-100 provost fellowships are available
		+ 5 community research fellowships
		+ 5 interdisciplinary
		+ WISER fellowship
		+ Carbon fellowships (for science students only)
	* LUROP Symposium to be held April 22nd during Weekend of Excellence
6. Online Courses
	* Want more online biology courses
	* Must demonstrate to Fr. Regan that they are same quality as in-person
	* Want them to run in the J-Term and Summer
	* Faculty may sign up for training to instruct online
	* Online will work well with bigger classes
	* Franks: some medical schools do not allow online science classes to transfer
7. New Programs
	* 5 year BS in Biology/MS in Bioinformatics
		+ Info is live on the website
		+ Current juniors may apply
	* MS in Bioinformatics
	* Kelly working on BS in Biology/MPH
8. Seminars
	* No seminar series this semester
	* 1 seminar is set for April 23rd
	* Need volunteers to supply seminar speakers
		+ Stick with local people, postdocs, or even other faculty members
9. Other News
	* Email Lodolce and Feeney about molecular projects that their BIOL390 students can work on
	* Franks: MAMS has seats available despite the mistaken letter sent out that said otherwise – tell people to apply
	* Helfgott: Let graduate students know about opportunities for Bio Bootcamp work in Spring and Summer
10. Adjourned