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