

Department of Chemistry
Faculty Meeting Minutes
February 2, 2006

Present: Babler, Ballicora, Baude, Becker, Boerger, Crumrine (Chair), Daubenmire, Dias, Fitch, Freitas, Graham, Hall (Adm Asst), Olsen, Szpunar, and Thomas

Absent: Chiarelli, Florian, Herlinger, Schmeling

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF December 1, 2005

The minutes were approved.

Chairpersons Announcements: Dr. David Crumrine

Congratulations!

- **Jim Babler** received a directed donation for research from Kenneth Spina, a former undergrad researcher.
- **Alanah Fitch** for being appointed to serve on the NSF-STEP review committee for this year.
- **Jan Florian** is on research leave for 4 months
- **Cyndi Sosnowski and Parimal Sura** were given additional Cassaretto Awards. The Brach Foundation has provided more money to award more medals and scholarships.
- **David Crumrine** elected vice-chair of Chicago ACS section and appointed member of joint ACS Board Safety Committee.

Good Bye. Meris Mandernach is leaving for George Mason University in Virginia. Her last day is Friday 17 Feb.

Thank you!

- **All of you** for meeting your classes, getting off to a good semester, using Blackboard (the Dean's request), completing your faculty evaluations in a timely manner, and reviewing an early draft of the Self-Study.
- **Miguel Ballicora & Dan Graham** spoke to the McNair Scholars from St. Olaf's on Tuesday.
- **Mary Baude & Alanah** submitted a grant proposal to the EPA.
- **Angela Boerger** agreed to take on the Chem 101 section since Jan Florian is on leave
- **Dan G.** attended the lecture on changes in chemical education at UIC last Thursday.
- **Denise Hall** for attending the Excellence in Leadership Certificate Program.
- **Carole Szpunar & Dan Becker** both submitted PRF proposals.
- **Angie, Mary, Patrick Daubenmire, Alanah, Denise & Ken Olsen** for contributing to the Self-Study
- **Martina Schmeling, Duarte Freitas, & Ken** for serving on Chair Selection Committee. Several candidates in play. *Dr. Olsen said the main concern is the lack of applicants. If you have anyone you'd like to nominate please inform the search committee.*
- **Tim Thomas** for completing the Dept. Newsletter and retrieving the email addresses. Mailing Expenses?
- **Denise** for gathering the retention data for the STEP proposal.

Events:

- Thur. Feb 2. 6:30 pm McCormick Lounge Wendy Kopp "Teach for America"
- Sat. Feb 4 Cumulative Exam at 1 pm
- Wed. Feb 8 Fr. Garanzini 3pm in Sullivan auditorium
- Wed. Feb 8 ACS dinner meeting at Abbott Labs 6 pm. (Registration is closed-300 people have registered.)
- Sun 5 March to Sun 12 March Spring break
- Thur. 2 March Next faculty meeting

- Scott Ritter may come to LU to speak about WMDs and Nuclear inspections in Iraq. Should we support this talk?
- Fri. 17 March Chemistry Olympiad Local Exam FH.
<http://cmsi.cps.k12.il.us/ViewNewsDetails.aspx?pid=537&id=5610>
- May 31-June 2 Great Lakes Regional Meeting in Milwaukee. Please submit papers when the announcement occurs.

Administrative Issues:

- 1) We need to work on revised course descriptions: 50 words, 2 sentences, one course description, one about learning outcomes. I have asked the Undergraduate committee and the Graduate committee to work on these changes.
- 2) Let's all get our syllabi *etc.* on Blackboard!
- 3) The PHONEATHON is Now! Please volunteer.
- 4) Spring Break March 5-12 2006
- 5) Spring Schedule http://www.luc.edu/academics/schedules/spring/academic_calendar.shtml
- 6) Journal Cancellations at LUHS <http://library.luhs.org/journalnews.htm>
- 7) A STEP proposal is going into the NSF that follows a NCAT program that has been tried at several places and disciplines (IA and WI). The concept is learning is more important than lecturing. The idea is to cut down on lecturing and have more discussion sessions and question and answer sessions. This is being written by the educational professionals among us, Adam Tarnoff and Steve McGee. Dr. Crumrine will tell us more after he sees a copy of it. These new teaching methods will require greater support from the administration.
- 8) Biology is hiring two additional faculty members this year. The administration asked about space in Flanner Hall.

Council Reports

- Academic Council – Dr. Daniel Graham

December Meeting –

- Damen Hall - Space is being identified for the folks currently housed in Damen Hall. Damen Hall will eventually be torn down. Coffee Hall will be revamped into office space for Social Science. Nursing will move to Granada, Natural Science will go to Physics and Math tba.
- Capstone Course – A request was made by a department to remove some capstone courses due to lack of personnel to teach the courses. The Dean vetoed the request. A taskforce was set up for capstone courses.
- Undergraduate Admissions for Fall 2006 - Undergraduate applications are up by 36% - deposits are up by 27%. The goal is to establish a freshman class of 2000 students plus 500 transfer students. The biology and chemistry departments are going to get hammered. This is viewed as an opportunity to shape the class. *Dr. Fitch and other faculty feel we can not accommodate these numbers without the appropriate resources.*
- Grievance topic – When a faculty member has a grievance with administration should they be allowed to have a lawyer present? There was not a conclusion. *Dr. Olsen stated that he sits on the faculty affairs UPC which has been discussing this issue for a year and a half and the decision of that group is that no, lawyers will not be allowed. Lawyers will come into play when a person sues the University. Dr. Fitch adds that the additional comment has been made that, than the administration had better not have as their staff representative someone who is a lawyer on the committee.*

January Meeting –

- Final Exam Schedule – The student representative spoke about the disapproval of the final exam schedule. They view the break in midweek as a bad idea.
- Honors Program – A new honors program is in place thanks to Joyce Wexler.
- Faculty Evolutions – There is a push to have the faculty evaluations put online and be made public.

Committee Reports

New Business - Dr. Olsen

- REU Grant – The REU Grant was not renewed this year.
- Recruiting – Drs. Graham and Ballicora went to meeting with McNair Scholars from St. Olaf's. Drs. Olsen and Laten have discussed putting in a McNair's Scholars grant in the sciences. This is for minority students.
- GAANN – We will not hear about the GAANN renewal until April.

Old Business

ADJOURNMENT: 12:35