

Natural Sciences and Mathematics Council

Meeting Minutes for January 27, 2015

Student Union 2591 3:30 – 4:30 PM

Call to Order

- Roll Call – Secretary - Edith Kippenhan
- **Present:** Jim Anderson, Peter Andreana, Bruce Bamber, Jonathan Bossenbroek, Mike Cushing, Hans Gottgens, Xiche Hu, Edith Kippenhan, David Krantz, John Plenefisch, Friedhelm Schwarz, Kathy Shan, Gerard Thompson, Sibylle Weck-Schwarz, Denis White, Yanfa Yan
- **Absent:** Anthony Quinn
- **Others Present:** Christine Habrecht

Approval of Minutes of November 25, 2014 Meeting

The minutes for the meeting were presented to council via e-mail. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Hans Gottgens and seconded by Peter Andreana. The motion passed unanimously.

Curriculum Committee

Summary: 4 minor course modifications and 1 program change to a Minor

BIOL 2150, 2160, 2170, 2180 (2 lectures and 2 labs): this is a change in the title of the course and the course description. The classes will no longer be labeled I and II since the recommended order of the courses are 2170 followed by 2150. The course description will be changed to include a statement that completion of 2170 before taking 2150 is strongly recommended.

The prerequisite of 2170 is being changed so that it is the same as 2150.

Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Environmental Sciences Minor:

NOTE: there is no form for the change to a Minor so the other form is currently being used.

A change is being made to correct the course catalog and DARS to match the website. Currently DARS shows that 8 cr. hr. of 3000/4000 level coursework in electives are required whereas the Environmental Sciences website shows 6 cr. hr. This requirement is in alignment with the others Minors in the college.

Motion to approve passed unanimously.

University Council:

The discussion was much of the same presented elsewhere or previously. The issue of parking on campus was discussed. Be prepared for the amount we will pay for the convenience of parking on campus to go up. OSU transferred their parking assets to a private company in a multimillion dollar deal.

Chairs Council:

Discussion centered on the requirement to modify syllabi to include learning outcomes. This information is to be passed to faculty via their respective chairs.

144 Honors students will be visiting NSM this Saturday, January 31, 2015, on Honors Scholarship Day. Last year 74-76% of the students that visited on Honors Scholarship Day

became UT students. The scholarships offered on this day are \$250-\$1000 awards and are made available only to those students that attend that day.

A request was made that the date of Honors Scholarships Day be shared much sooner, preferably as soon as the date is set. Faculty would like to participate but notice is received too short before the event.

The state is suggesting a 5% tuition cut for next year. Higher enrollment numbers are anticipated for Fall 2015.

Graduate Council:

Graduate student headcount and FTEs are down by 3-5%. NSM numbers are up slightly.

The FY16 budget includes about \$1 million in tuition scholarships for graduate students.

Full-time graduate enrollment will probably be changing from 12 cr. hr. to 9 cr. hr. per semester.

Departments will be able to accept new qualified students hopefully as soon as next week once the GA budget has been approved. It is expected out next week.

Please share with your graduate students: CoGS scholarship awards – their deadline is February 13th. See the website for more information.

Announcement: judges are needed for the Midwest Graduate Research Symposium. The symposium is scheduled for March 21, 2015, and is hosted by the UT Graduate Student Association.

Question: could this be used as a recruitment tool for undergraduates?

Lastly, there is a push for the KC program to become active soon.

Bill Messer stated that research proposals, IRB authorizations, etc. will soon be done via an online process for approvals. This will also help PIs to tracking budgets, expenditures, etc.

Faculty Senate:

The key topic of the December meeting was the state of the University and the role played by Interim President Naganathan and Interim Provost Barrett.

A 5-8% reduction in tuition across the board for all Ohio institutions with no offset from state subsidies is projected for next year.

Sabbatical approvals update: 33 total applications were submitted of which 30 were approved. 3 requests were not eligible. Barrett stated that sabbaticals are seen as being financially neutral rather than being a loss.

Others shared the information that 12-month sabbaticals are generally a wash since the sabbatical is paid at 2/3 pay, the institution has money to pay for a replacement. This is not the case for 6-month sabbaticals. Further, guidance on the standards to be applied during the review of sabbatical applications could be better. This year the University waived the requirement of submitting previous sabbatical reviews.

Barrett explained the \$14 million deficit should be reduced soon. Annual budget is approx. \$750 million. Reduction of the deficit is in part because there is an increased hold on open positions so salary is not being paid out and enrollments for next year are higher than predicted.

New Business:

Gerard had asked members to provide information about staffing and number of majors over the last seven years. These numbers are provided below for everyone's reference.

	Academic Year	2007/ 2008	2009/ 2010	2010/ 2011	2011/ 2012	2012/ 2013	2013/ 2014	2014/ 2015
Biology	T/TT	21	19		18			17
	Lecturers	1	1		1			3
	VAPs	0	1					0
	Grad Assts	39	43		0			54
	Majors	300	390		495			650
Chemistry	T/TT		20	21		22		20
	Lecturers		3	3		3		5
	VAPs		3	3		3		1
	Grad Assts							
	Majors		122	161		145		129
Math/Stats	T/TT	30			21			19
	Lecturers	10			10			19
	VAPs	14			11			3
	Grad Assts	43			41			34
	Majors	~80						68
Phys/Astro	T/TT		24		21			21
	Lecturers		0		0			2
	VAPs		1		2			0
	Grad Assts		65		69			75
	Majors		70		70			65
Env Sci	T/TT		20			17		17
	Lecturers		0			0		1
	VAPs		0			0		0
	Grad Assts		38			39		35
	Majors		125			164		144

Math/Stats faculty levels have dropped significantly in the Math area, not that of Statistics. It is anticipated that 3 faculty in Math will retire, but only 2 lines will be kept. The third line was taken out of the college.

The number of Biology majors is up because the pre-med students think they can get into UTMC easier if they are already UT students. The biology classes affected by this growth are now larger and/or are taught twice a year.

Physics has seen an increase in the number of students taking calculus-based physics. The numbers for algebra-based physics, which is the course that is required for pharmacy students, are down. General Chemistry numbers are staying approximately the same because the growth of the numbers in biology are off-set by the decrease in the number of pharmacy students.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm with a motion by Kathy that was seconded by Denis.