DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY AND PHYSICS
FACULTY MEETING MINUTES
January 21, 2009


I. Call To Order: The meeting was called to order at 12:00 noon on Jan. 21, 2009 in the Conference Room 2603. Dr. Will Lynch presided.

II. Standing Items
   A- The Minutes from November 2008 were approved with two modifications (under Committee Reports, page 1, tenure was replaced with ten year, and on page 5 it was noted that cc: went to Drs. Shields and Jodis in the College of Science and Technology).

   B- Faculty Senate – Drs. Hizer and Nivens informed the department that the Senate is continuing its discussion on the role of ex-officio members. The situation has not been resolved. The Senate is busy working on committee bylaws at this moment, there are many “growing pains” that are being worked through as the Senate finds its role in the University. The Chief Financial Officer also attended the most recent Senate meeting and made a presentation.

III. Committee Reports
   A- Assessment Committee – No Report

   B- General Chemistry Committee – No Report

   C- Curriculum Committee – No Report. Dr. Lynch asked the committee to have a discussion related to a “C or better” requirement in CHEM 1211 and 1212 and the implications therein.

   D- Experiential Activities - No Report.

   E- Safety Committee - No Report (see item below).

   F- ACS Certification – No Report. Dr. Lynch asked the committee to review the library periodical holdings in light of the fact that we now have access to all ACS publications on-line. This may make some of our present acquisitions unnecessary and that money may be diverted elsewhere.
G- Planning Committee – No Report. Dr. Nivens did announce that the committee is finalizing plans for recommendations for 2009 purchasing of major equipment.

IV. Old Business

A- Search Update – Chemistry. There are approximately 45 candidates in the pool presently. The committee is at the stage of making background calls on 6-8 persons of interest. An list of candidates recommended for on campus interviews should be available in the next 10 days. On campus interviews approximately mid-February. Physics – Approximately 65 candidates have applied, the committee is also narrowing the pool to 8-10 candidates for background calls, interviews slated for mid to late February.

V. New Business - Dr. Lynch addressed the following issues:

1- Certificate in Forensic Science – Dr. Lynch circulated an item about 2 weeks ago regarding feedback on the future of the certificate program. There were no comments in favor or retaining the certificate. The faculty voted unanimously to begin the process of discontinuing the certificate.

2- Post Bac. Pre-Medicine Program – Dr. Lynch circulated an item about 2 weeks ago regarding feedback on the future of the program. There were no comments in favor or retaining the program. The faculty voted unanimously to begin the process of discontinuing the program.

3- Laboratory Items (Blood) – During Right To Know Training this year, the issue of disposal of blood stained paper towels surfaced. The department will adopt a procedure to place a 10% solution of bleach in each lab so if towels are used to dispose of blood, the towels will be placed in a container with the bleach solution and then the towels will be disposed of in the trash. This procedure will be in place this month and the Safety Committee will adopt a formal policy for the February meeting.

4- Faculty Senate – Nominations are asked for a replacement for Drs. Hizer (Senator) and Baird (Alternate). Please get any nominations into the office by Feb. 10th so we may have an election promptly after.

5- Summer Schedule – We will adopt the two 6 week summer schedule in Summer 2009. We will begin promptly on May 18 and continue through the end of June with Session 1. Session 2 will be the last of June through early August. Four day a week classes. Courses will be sequenced as originally requested.

6- Fall items – There is increasing pressure on our department to offer courses in the following areas: CHEM 1151/1151L/1152/1152L (Dental Hyg. Beginning the process of converting over to requiring these courses), ISCI 2002 (a second section was added for Sp 09 and will be included in the future scheduling), PHYS 1211/1211L (middle grades is now advising all students into these courses), PHYS 2211/2212 (Ga Tech has 30 extra students on campus this year – we opened a second section of 2211 – and will have 60 in
Fall 2009 and over 100 in Fall 2010. All of these additional responsibilities come with no support from the administration.

7- MIRC – Dr. Lynch is going to Georgia Tech to give a seminar on nanotechnology at the Ga Tech Microelectronics Research Center on Feb. 9. He invited faculty with an interest to join him.

VI. Announcements
   A. Good News
1- Dr. Lynch congratulated Drs. Feske, Padgett and Mateer (Biology) on the funding of their NSF-RUI proposal. This proposal has significant summer salary for the PI’s and students as well as supply and travel money.

2- Dr. Lynch noted that Dr. Shields also received an NSF-RUI at the same time, this proposal will pay for a 3 year post-doctoral fellow as well as undergraduate summer salaries.


4- Dr. Nivens announced that the NSF has contacted her and Dr. Shields regarding the NSF-STEP grant which was submitted in the fall. The have asked for 2 items and indications are positive it may be funded.

5- Ms. Carpenter acknowledged the work that Dr. Baird has done in upgrading the 60 MHz NMR so the data can be manipulated by computer externally and therefore outputted to a plotter easier.

VII. Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 pm
Next Meeting: Feb. 11, 12:00 pm

cc: Dr. Ellen V. Whitford, Vice-President of Academic Affairs
    Dr. George Shields, Dean, College of Science and Technology
    Dr. Stephen Jodis, Assistant Dean, College of Science and Technology
In the introductory courses CHEM 1211 and CHEM 1212 all faculty will use the ACS exam as a final exam for the class given during the exam period designated by AASU. The ACS Exam will represent between 15% and 20% of the overall class grade.
For courses in which there is a laboratory and class component. The percentage of the grade based on each component should be consistent with the credit hours assigned to each part.

Example: CHEM 1211 is a 3-3-4 credit class thus 75% of the grade should come from the class component and 25% from the laboratory.

Students are required to pass (have a grade of 60% or better) the laboratory component in order to pass the course.

Students retaking CHEM 1211 and CHEM 1212 may use any previous AASU lab grade if it is available (as long as it is a 60% or better). A record of all 1211 and 1212 laboratory grades will be maintained in the departmental office.