DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY AND PHYSICS
FACULTY MEETING MINUTES
April 21, 2010


I. Call To Order: The meeting was called to order at 12:00 noon on April 21, 2010 in the Conference Room 2603. Dr. Will Lynch presided.

II. Standing Items
A- The Minutes from March 10, 2010 were approved as presented.

B- Faculty Senate
1. Dr. Nivens informed the faculty that Ms. Carpenter will be our new Faculty Senate Vice-President for the next year, Dr. Robert LeFavi will be the new President and Pamela Sears will be the new Secretary.

2. Dr. Nivens added that the Faculty Senate voted on a withdrawal policy and grade replacement. She wanted the faculty to be aware of the fact that not because the Senate passed this it will necessarily mean that it will take place, but it is a first step.

3. Dr. Nivens indicated the Senate voted to eliminate the grade replacement policy that we currently have and to support averaging grades over the number of attempts. There will be no more grade forgiveness as it has been in the past if this goes through. Therefore, if a student takes a class and fails it, the next time the student takes it and gets an A, the GPA calculation with average to a 2.0.

4. The Faculty Senate also passed a W policy, which does not limit the number of withdrawals, however, after the first 5 regular Ws, the student will be automatically assigned a WF. Ms. Carpenter added that an amendment was made to the motion and that students may receive 1 W in a course and the second time that they re-take the course, if they dropped it, then it will be automatically a WF. This policy should be effective fall 2010, but it will all depend on what happens when it gets to President Bleicken’s desk.

III. Committee Reports
A. Assessment Committee – Dr. Clifford Padgett informed the faculty that he will be sending out instructions for the ACS final. He wants the instructors to emphasize to students to put their id number where it says id. He will, also, start collecting data from every class that has ACS exams so the committee can start tracking down our majors.
B. General Chemistry Committee – Dr. Lea Padgett informed the faculty that anyone needing the assessment quiz for the lab, to let her know so she can provide them with a copy of the quiz and/or a copy of the key.

She also announced that there are 6 students who will be awarded with the General Chemistry Award. The students will be contacted and invited to attend the senior’s luncheon so they can be recognized there.

The committee decided to recommend Mastering Chemistry as a replacement online homework system instead of OWL.

And lastly, regarding choosing a textbook for CHEM 1211/1212 effective Fall 2010, the committee narrowed the search to two textbooks, one was The Atoms First Book by McMurry and Fay and the other one was Principles of Chemistry: A Molecular Approach by Tro.

The faculty voted unanimously in favor of adopting the Principles of Chemistry book by Tro and replacing the online homework with the mastering chemistry system. You may refer to attachment #1 regarding the Minutes of the General Chemistry meeting.

C. Curriculum Committee
1- Chemistry – Dr. Smith reported that the committee discussed the creation of a new ISCI course to meet the needs of the College of Education. Nevertheless, it was also decided that more information was required before further action could be taken. A motion was made and passed to table the item until further information has been obtained.

2- The committee also discussed making changes to the 3000 level OCEA, METR and ASTR courses with the focus on the current level appropriateness of these courses. Please refer to attachment #2.

B- Curriculum Committee/Physics
1- Mr. Jaynes informed the faculty that the committee approved the following CURCAT for PHYS 4950 Special Topics in Physics to correct/restore a missing one:
CURCAT:
Major Department: Chemistry and Physics
Can course be repeated for additional credit: No Yes
Maximum Number of Credit Hours: 3
Grading Mode: Normal
Instruction Type: Lecture/Lab?

Rationale: This is being done to insure that the course is repeatable for additional credit. The AASU registrar’s records show that it is not repeatable and searches for the original CURCAT for the original one have not found it.

It was decided to list them as 2 separate courses.
2- The committee also agreed that the counting of ENGR 2001 as an option for Choose one course from PHYS 3210 or PHYS 4170 (or ENGR 2001) as shown on the B.S. in Applied Physics Check sheet should be eliminated.

3- In regards to the physics brochure, Dr. Secrest contacted Joan Lehon from Marketing and sent her the draft. On the meeting on Friday the committee made a few minor changes to the brochure and is currently waiting to hear from Marketing.

Please refer to attachment #3.

D. Exp. Activities Committee – No Report.

E. Safety Committee – No Report

F. ACS Certification Committee – No Report.

G. Planning Committee – No Report.

IV. Old Business

A. Budget – Dr. Lynch reported that the department is moving forward appropriately with respect to closing out the 2009-2010 budget. The only outstanding issue is that pertaining to the projection for the Geology room.

In regards to purchasing, we are ceasing for the summer as of today and then starting to purchase again in the month of May.

B. Advising Recap – Dr. Lynch asked that all advisee lists be sent to Ms. Batista since the advisement period is over.

C. Summer 2010 – Dr. Lynch, also, informed the faculty that basically all courses are very healthy for the summer. Both Dr. Brush and Ms. Mullenax were congratulated for having 2 Teacher Quality grants funded for the summer. Dr. Brush will be teaching at the Armstrong Center. Her grants are renewable for a second year and are for approximately $50,000 each. Ms. Mullenax will be teaching her programs mostly off campus and both of her Teacher Quality grants are approximately $40,000 each.

Dr. Lynch continued saying that we will have STEP and Green Chemistry students and a variety of other things going on during the summer. As for the fall, our enrollments are strong and we expect to be at capacity in the short term.

D. President Bleicken / May 5th – Dr. Lynch reminded the faculty of the upcoming departmental meeting when President Bleicken will be joining us.

E. Graduation
Graduation is scheduled for 10 am on May 8, 2010 at the Civic Center. The department has 4 chemists graduating, no physics graduates.

E. Attendance Policy – No comments were made in regards to the Attendance Policy; everything seemed to be in accordance.

V. New Business
A. Cultivating Majors
Dr. Wallace encouraged everyone to be thinking about ideas on how to increase the number of majors that are in our programs, the number of credit hours that we generate and things in general that make us look like the viable and strong department that we are. Once the ideas are jotted down, the faculty can meet and talk about them during the coming fall.

B. Chemistry Newsletter
Dr. Lynch reminded everyone that the chemistry side of the department was to develop a newsletter for the summer. Therefore, he will be requesting your help, perhaps to write a short article regarding some of the projects that are going on, etc. Currently he is in conversation with the Alumni Office for help and guidance in this respect.

C. End of Term
Dr. Lynch asked the faculty to mark the following dates on their calendars:
Apr 21/2010 – Honors Convocation
Apr 30/2010 - CHEM 4500, 4991 Seminars
May 3rd/2010 - Senior Lunch

Students who will be recognized during the Honors Convocation are Daniel Canady, John Brewer Award, Jennifer Cooper, Academic Achievement and Misty Gurley, who was awarded 2nd place during the Poster Session for student research.

The seminars for both CHEM 4500 and 4991 will be held on May 3rd at noon. Tawny McReynolds will be making a presentation for CHEM 4500 and both Erica Cooper and Alexandra Duncan will be making presentations for CHEM 4991.

May 3rd will be the Senior Luncheon at noon. The department will be putting together a power point presentation, so help will be requested from Dr. Lynch to do this. Flyers will be posted regarding the luncheon. The luncheon menu will be salads and food that would not require heating.

VI. Announcements
Apr 19 and May 3rd – High School Student Interactions – 22 Students from Savannah Science Seminar are building rockets in our lab.
Apr 29 - Coastal GA Section will be meeting at Moon River. There will be a guest speaker who will be talking about “Origins of Life”. Dr. MacGowan added that our affiliates did a great job on Earth Day.
May 1st, 2nd and 9th – SCAD Movie will be filming on campus. Ms. Carpenter is one of the persons to contact. They are currently looking for extras if anyone is interested.

Congratulations are in order as follows:

Both Alexandra Duncan and Misty Gurley did a great job in representing the department in San Francisco at the Spring 2010 ACS National Meeting.

The faculty who went to San Francisco ran into **Jodi Hadden**: she won an award and ended up giving her boss’ talk, she did a great job as well. She was here on campus visiting a couple of weeks ago. Jodi will be graduating soon from UGA. **Jessica Moore** was also in San Francisco and is currently doing very well in New Mexico.

Patrick Sisco will be graduating from the University of Illinois in August. He has accepted a post-doc at Northwestern University, which will start on September 1st and is currently working on his twelfth publication from his Ph.D. work.

John Stone is still at Vanderbilt. He has been offered a research scientist position, which he most likely will accept.

Peter Daniel has been admitted to Medical School at Mercer and MCG.

The following students have been admitted to Pharmacy School:
Chris Dobry at UGa
Phung Dang at South University and
Jana Gibson at Presbyterian College

Alexandra Duncan has been accepted for graduate school at the University of Vermont.

**VI. Adjournment**
The meeting was adjourned at 1:00pm.

cc: Dr. Ellen V. Whitford, Vice-President of Academic Affairs – Dean of Faculty
Dr. George Shields, Dean, College of Science and Technology
Dr. Stephen Jodis, Assistant Dean, College of Science and Technology
Attachment #1

Minutes of General Chemistry Committee
19 April 2010

Members attending: Sabitra Brush, Cathy MacGowan, Cliff Padgett, and Lea Padgett (chair)
Guests: Todd Hizer, Josh Smith, Eric Werner

1. Minutes from 12 February 2010 were approved.
2. General Chemistry Awards: After analyzing the data accumulated from the faculty teaching general chemistry over the past year, the students were ranked according to the formula previously laid out by the group. It was agreed that six awards was a good number given the number of general chemistry students. The top six students will be contacted and invited to attend the end of year lunch and be recognized.
3. It was agreed that we would continue to use the assessment quizzes in their current format with no changes. These will be distributed in the short term.
4. It was decided that Mastering Chemistry be recommended as a replacement online homework system for OWL. This recommendation will be presented to the department in the next faculty meeting. Access to this system is $6 for two years if purchased in a bundle with a textbook or $50 if purchased ala carte from Masteringchemistry.com.
5. Two textbooks received significant discussion for recommendation as the textbook for next fall. The Atoms First book by McMurry and Fay is very interesting since it has a different order of chapters and was strongly supported by some in attendance. More information was needed to make a distinction between the two versions of the Tro textbooks that were available. As a result, final decision between the Tro editions and the consideration of the Atoms First books was postponed until the information was available.
6. A follow-up meeting of the committee on 20 April 2010 resulted in the official recommendation being for Principles of Chemistry: a Molecular Approach by Tro, which is significantly cheaper and contains less material that is not covered in our general chemistry sequence. While the Atoms First book is interesting, we suggest that it be considered another time as the book is expensive and instructors can individually choose to teach in this format if they want by rearranging the chapters of the other text.
Attachment #2

Chemistry-Physics Curriculum Committee Minutes
Department of Chemistry and Physics
April 5, 2010

Present: Joshua Smith, Suzanne Carpenter, Leon Jaynes, William Baird, and Brent Feske
Visitors: Cathy McGowan, Todd Hizer, Donna Mullenax, Eric Werner, Cliff Padgett,
and Richard Wallace

I. Call to Order
   The meeting was called to order at 12:05 PM

II. New Business
   A. Creation of new ISCI course for COE

   The committee discussed the creation of a new ISCI course to meet the needs for the
   College of Education (COE). The committee decided more information was required
   before further action could be taken. A list of questions and concerns has been compiled
   by the committee that requires response from the Dean of the College of Education.

   A motion was made and passed to table this item until further information has been
   obtained.

   B. Evaluate 3000 level OCEA, METR, ASTR, etc.

   The committee discussed making changes to the 3000 level OCEA, METR, and ASTR
   courses with the focus on the current level appropriateness of these courses. Todd Hizer
   has been charged with obtaining the breakdown of the majors that are taking these
   courses. Leon Jaynes has been charged with information gathering from the instructors
   of these courses to obtain their thoughts regarding adjustment of the course level listing.

III. Meeting adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 PM. The next meeting has not been scheduled.
Attachment #3

Minutes of the Physics Curriculum Committee
Meeting Date/Time: Friday, 4/16/10 at 12:00pm-1:25pm
Meeting Location: SC 2402
Present: Leon Jaynes (Chairman), William Baird, Jeffery Secrest, & Donna Mullenax (Guest)

1. Approved the following CURCAT for PHYS 4950 Special Topics in Physics to correct/restore a missing one:

CURCAT:
Major Department: Chemistry and Physics
Can course be repeated for additional credit: Yes
Maximum Number of Credit Hours: 3
Grading Mode: Normal
Instruction Type: Lecture

Rationale: This is being done to insure that the course is repeatable for additional credit. The AASU registrar’s records show that it is not repeatable and searches for the original CURCAT for the original one have not found it.

2. Discussion of the physics brochure. Dr. Secrest will make the changes agreed upon and contact Dr. Lynch to attempt to present it to the Chemistry & Physics Department meeting on 4/21/10.

3. Discussion of tracks for the Physics Program was continued. Ms. Mullenax will tabulate a list of the common courses for each track beginning with the input information from Dr. Secrest on a spreadsheet. Each person was asked to consider whether any new courses would be required for the tracks. Mr. Jaynes provided the committee with the suggestion that a junior level course in solid state or condensed matter physics is needed for the Applied Physics track.

4. Discussion of Physics upper division course rotation was conducted. A new course rotation that will include introductory physics will be composed and presented to Dr. Lynch.

5. It was agreed that the counting of ENGR 2001 as an option for Choose one course from: PHYS 3210 or PHYS 4170 (or ENGR 2001) as shown on the B. S. in Applied Physics CHEEKSHEET should be eliminated.

Respectfully Submitted,
Leon Jaynes, Chairman