

A meeting of the Ordinary faculty of the Department of Biological Sciences was called to order at 12:32 p.m. on Tuesday, November 15, 2016 in MO 451 by Dr. Don Hauber.

- I. Minutes were approved for the October 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- II. Faculty present: ~~Anderson~~, Barnes, Barrilleaux, Beard, Bucolo, Dorn, Gauthier, Hauber, Hood, ~~Jordan~~, Mix, Thomas, ~~Tobler~~, Wee, ~~White~~, Wolfe
- III. DSAC representatives: Michael Pashkevich
- IV. Guest: Sara Clark  
Sara provided an update on UACHIEVE. Right now it works only for students who started as freshman this fall – 16F. You can leave comments unlike OnCourse.
- V. Announcements
  - A. Research seminars: The last fall seminar will be on November 29<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Sunshine Van Bael will be the presenter.
  - B. Health Career Seminars: The last fall seminar will be Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup>.
  - C. Spring/Summer schedule: Don is tracking enrollment and numbers are low. He's working with Maria to fill the seats. Chemistry's Recitation is on Thursday and lecture is MTW in the middle of our 11:00 classes.
  - D. BioInquiry: We have to submit a separate course fee and need approval from SCAP. (Don)
  - E. Deans Advisory Council: The Dean's office is working hard to push through all course and curricular proposals. They provided the next four dates for meetings. (Craig) Uriel will make an announcement at the College Assembly regarding the number of and justification for Incompletes. Notification needs to go to the Office of Disability Services. (Don)
  - F. Vitae updates are due December 1<sup>st</sup>. (Don)
  - G. URS update: The date for the URS has been set for April 21<sup>st</sup> in Miller Hall Room 114. (Don)
  - H. Faculty Search Update: Paperwork is in the pipeline. (Don)
  - I. Meeting with Edouard Crago: A student wasn't told that he had to retake a pre-requisite where he earned a "D". LSU requires a C or better though not all schools require this. Students need to know requirements before transferring to a particular school. Should we meet with Edouard Crago? (Don)
  - J. Upcoming Five Year Self Study will be in the fall of 2018. It doesn't require an outside review. (Don)
  - K. DSAC: Michael attended a meeting with students from all over. Over the summer, college SGAs were merged with DSAC. They've been meeting for months. He brought ideas with him to the meeting but wasn't allowed to present them. He has not met with Dean Calzada yet and will meet with Associate Dean Quesada to discuss DSAC's purpose.
  - L. Biology Study Room: Patricia discussed Michael's topic of finding a study room for Biology students. Suggested the room next to Frank's lab. Asked the faculty to think

about what rooms might be available, the possibility of getting a couch, and to bring ideas to the next meeting. Don asked the Equipment and Space Committee to meet on this before the next faculty meeting. Jim asked that they find someone to make sure the room is kept clean.

- M. Aimee congratulated Michael Pashkevich and Melanie Sferraza on placing first and second at the Mentored Undergraduate Research Poster Competition at the Annual Professional Development Conference of the National Association of Biology Teachers in Denver, CO. She also congratulated Michael on being accepted into graduate school at Cambridge.
- N. Aimee said that the STEM conference would be a great opportunity to showcase BioInquiry. We can propose a workshop or a paper peer-review then find out if we get asked to present.
- O. BioChem: Do we want to offer a BioChem course in Biology? MCAT changed to include more BioChemistry. Should we require our students to take two courses to get into Chemistry? (Don) We should consider Kim teaching one in BioChem. (Tish) Jim has several student this semester in BioChem that are not doing well. Students who were heading to health careers grabbed at BioChem, then realized they don't want to be chemists. The students should have at least one BioChem course. (Craig) Kim will consider it if Bill's Chem II became Chem I. She could offer molecular genetics which would have a lot of overlap. Kim will talk to Bill about it.

#### VI. Old Business

- A. Tracks were discussed in the Dean's Advisory Council. We agreed to have tracks which opened the discussion. (Don) Pushing tracks is a way of marketing. If students don't hear a word they like, they just hear "Biology" and might not be drawn in. Tulane now has a marine minor which students have to take courses at LUMCON. Patricia moved to have a Pre-Health track which was seconded by Frank. Don questioned what we can offer on a regular basis that the students can complete the track and inquired about a CMB track. Patricia suggested the Curriculum Committee should meet and bring back proposals. Don tabled the motion and said action needs to be taken at the next meeting. It was seconded by Craig and the vote passed unanimously.

#### VII. The meeting was adjourned at 1:43 p.m.