

# ***Minutes of Departmental Committee Meeting***

*1:30 Tuesday, October 13, 2015, Room 9341*

(Professors Andrew, Berry, Bertram, Brunold, Burstyn, Cavagnero, Ediger, Garand, Gellman, Hamers, Landis, McMahon, Moore, Nathanson, Schmidt, Shakhashiri, Skinner, Stahl, Weisshaar, Wright, Yoon, Zanni attending.)

Rachel Bain, Stephen Block, Matt Bowman, Arrietta Clauss, Pam Doolittle, Tracy Drier, Pat Egan, Ilia Guzei, Jeanne Hamers, Tony Jacob, Jim Maynard, Jeff Nielsen, Dennis Reece, Cheri Rossi, Matt Sanders, Rodney Schreiner, Cecilia Stodd, Kris Turkow, Martha Vestling, Chad Wilkinson also attended.)

## ***Open Session***

**Minutes of the last meeting (09/08/15) were not available, and will be approved at the next meeting (11/10/15).**

## **Announcements and Reports**

### **Safety Update**

Jeff Nielsen gave the report. There have been 5 incident reports since the last update. The fire inspector has warned Jeff about students sitting in the aisles in overcrowded lecture halls. Please ask your students to move to the middle of the seat rows, and do not let them sit in aisles.

There have been 3 power outages in the last 4 weeks, two of which lasted over an hour. Please be aware that the Department has a COOP (Continuity of Operations) team which responded to these incidents; the team consists of Bob McMahon, Lloyd Smith, Ive Hermans, Matt Sanders, Jeff Nielsen, Alan Silver, and Libby Dowdall. We are attempting to convince the University administration that a power outage of any considerable length of time in the Chemistry building is NOT just an inconvenience; it becomes a life safety issue within an hour or two. The COOP team is preparing a response and policy proposal to the power outage incidents.

### **Administrative Update**

Pat Egan announced that Chemistry's HR has done a self-audit of existing I9 forms; these are required to legally employ someone at the University. If you get an email from Danielle, please fill out the forms and provide proof of employability.

It's open enrollment time for benefits earned through the University. This will last through Friday, October 30.

### **Faculty Senate Report**

Judith Burstyn reported. A committee is working on rewriting Chapter 10 with regard to layoff of tenured faculty; please read this. Legislators are discussing how to allow concealed carry on campus.

### **Luncheon Honoring Irv Shain and Sons**

Will be held Friday, October 16 at noon. The Chancellor, Provost, Dean and Associate Dean will all be there.

### **UW-System Chemistry Faculty Meeting (UW-Madison is the host)**

John Wright is planning this. It will be held October 23<sup>rd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> here in Madison.

## **Business**

### **Wisconsin Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Bridge to the Doctorate (WiscAMP-BD)**

Gail Coover, Executive Director of WiscAMP, presented the program. The goal is to increase the participation of underrepresented minorities in STEM PhDs. The program has been at UW since 2004, but has involved only undergraduates. Now it is extended to grad students, and Chemistry has 2 WiscAMP fellows.

### **Chemistry 350, "Communicating Chemistry to the Public"**

Jeanne Hamers asked for approval of the course in the name of the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee. This is a course that would train undergrads in the presentation of outreach programs through "Science is FUN!" It has in the past been presented as a Directed Study (299 or 699) course, and has been a good tool for recruiting Chemistry majors.

**The proposal was approved on a voice vote with no negatives.**

### **Chemistry 275, Crosslisted Course with Zoology 275, "Facilitating Peer Learning"**

Jeanne Hamers asked for approval of the course in the name of the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee. This course had also been previously offered as Chem 299, but is really a group learning course.

**The proposal was approved on a voice vote with no negatives.**

### **Chemistry Major Learning Goals**

Jeanne Hamers presented the goals that had been submitted in June as Learning Goals for the Chemistry Major. These goals had been approved by the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee before they were submitted, but had never been approved by the full Department. Discussion ensued about possible improvements to the statement of these goals, but since these have already been submitted, that discussion applies only to future modifications.

**The proposal was approved on a voice vote with no negatives.**

### **Board of Advisers Meeting**

Bob McMahon reported on the meeting, held October 9. The Board of Advisers was very important in helping us to establish a team (Nick Jaeger and Libby Dowdall) who became important once the Morgridge Match came along. It was only because the infrastructure was in place that we could take advantage of the Match, and establish 4 Professorships/Chairs. The Board has also been very important to us in advocating for the new education building. We asked the Board if they wanted to go to a schedule of meetings only once a year, and their response was resoundingly NO, they considered they had work yet to be done.

With no more business brought to the Department Committee, the meeting was adjourned after a motion from Bassam Shakhashiri and John Berry.

October 26, 2015. MJS