

**Council of Department Chairs
College of the Sciences, Central Washington University
Regular Meeting, September 30, 2004
10:30 a.m., Science 301**

Attending:

Barlow, Kathleen - Anthropology
Boersma, Stuart F. - Mathematics
Brown, James R. Jr. - Political Science
Darda, David – Biological Sciences
Ely, Lisa L. – Geological Sciences
Johnson, Kirk A. - Sociology
Lillquist, Karl L – Geography and Land Studies

Miller, M. Meghan - Dean
Palmquist, Bruce – Physics and Science Education
Schwing, James L. - Computer Science
Street, Warren - Psychology
Thomas, Carin - Associate Dean and Chair, Chemistry
Tolin, Philip - Associate Dean and Chair, Law and Justice

Department Reports:

Biological Sciences:

- *Dave Darda reported that (1) a productive two-day departmental retreat was held at the beginning fall quarter, and (2) the process of hiring an animal physiologist has begun.*

Chemistry:

- *Levente. Fabry-Asztalos gave an invited research seminar presentation at Boise State University, Department of Chemistry, Boise, ID, October 1, 2004: "Design and Synthesis of Novel Aspartic Protease Inhibitors."*
- *Three chemistry faculty members. Anne Johansen, Eric Bullock and Carin Thomas, collaborated on an NIEHS-AREA (National Institutes of Environmental Health Science, Academic Research Enhancement Award) grant proposal submitted on September 23, 2004 and Titled, "Ultrafine Particles and Mitochondrial Dysfunction."*

Computer Science:

- *The following presentations will be made at the CCSC-NW 2004 conference during the week of October 4-8 by Computer Science students for whom Razvan Andonie is the mentor:*

Japanese Character Recognition Using a Fuzzy Neural Network Benjamin Rooney

CWU Chess: An Adaptive Chess Program (Asher Odah, Pushipinder Heer, and Joe Lemley)
- *Boris Kovalerchuk and Jim Schwing are targeting December as the publication date for a new book.*
- *Ed Gellenbeck will be chairing a session of the Northwest Computer Science Consortium meeting during the week of October 4-8.*

Geography and Land Studies:

- *Karl Lillquist reported that the high demand support the department received has resulted in approximately 35 more FTE students.*

Geological Sciences:

- *Wendy Bohrson will be presenting her research findings as an invited speaker at an international volcanology conference in Naples, Italy.*
- *Jeff Lee has returned from summer field work at the Kung Tso rift in Tibet where he collaborated with Drs Simon Wallis and Mutsuki Aoya, Nagoya University, Japan, and Dr. Wang Yu of the China University of Geosciences, Beijing (The Kung Tso rift is located north-northwest of Everest, and Jeff noted that on a clear day they could see the mountain.) A variety of analyses (quantitative pressure and temperature calculations, age of rocks, timing of fault motions, etc.) will be completed on the numerous rock samples*

they collected. The results from these studies will allow them to quantify the timing and rates of geologic events in that area. (Their field observations suggest that these rocks were buried to depths of <10 km and to temperatures <650°C and that normal faulting, still active today, was the most likely process by which these rocks were translated to the earth's surface.

Law and Justice:

- The Law and Justice Department was awarded a \$125K high demand grant this summer.
- *Mary Ellen Reimund*, has had an article, "Confidentiality in Victim Offender Mediation -- A False Promise?" accepted for publication in the "Journal of Dispute Resolution."
- *Chuck Reasons*, published an article entitled "Civilian Review: Some Observations" in "Law Enforcement Executive Forum" July, 2004.
- *Barb Demory* received the CWU Employee of the Month award for June.
- Also in June, the CWU LAJ students defeated the local police in a softball game by a score of 23-7.

Mathematics:

- Stuart Boersma reported that he was able to accommodate all graduating seniors who came to him during add/drop week requesting a Math 101, and the department is beginning the process of reviewing the relationship of the math curriculum and other program needs on campus.

Physics:

- Bruce Palmquist reported that the lower-division physics courses were full and trailing sections are larger than in the recent past.

Political Science:

- Jim Brown noted that Political Science courses were filled to capacity. Also, *Stephanie Wickstrom* is scheduled to chair three panel discussions at the Pacific Northwest Political Science Association meeting at Portland, Oregon November 4-6. *Mathew Manweller* and *Rex Wirth* will serve as discussants on one panel each.
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Psychology:

- *Megan Matheson*, *Steve Wagner* (Biology), and *Laurie Sheeran* (Anthropology) participated in the first annual CWU/Anhui University Research Symposium at Anhui University in Hefei, China. Anhui is very interested in furthering this collaboration with CWU. Our trio gathered preliminary data and information for writing a grant to fund further research and the team is hoping to establish a student-faculty field research station in China by summer, 2005.

Sociology:

- *Hong Xiao*, presented a paper, "Values, Norms and Human Rights Policy: Comparison Between China and Selected Western Nations" at the conference of the Western Association of Asian Studies, Seattle WA Sept. 30-Oct. 2.

Old and Unused Computers

- Meghan reported that 429 PCs have been unplugged from the network and urged the chairs to call the ITS help desk to get rid of them if they have no further use for them.

HR2005

- Meghan noted that new rules affecting civil service employees will also affect the supervisory responsibilities of department chairs. She asked the chairs to attend eight hours of training prorated over November 16 and 17. Each day the afternoon training session will be a repetition of the morning session. Further, the chairs were asked try to attend either morning sessions or afternoon sessions each day. (Alternate dates: October 19th, October 20th, December 14th, or December 15th. The training on these alternate dates will be full-day, eight-hour sessions.)

Strategic Plan

- Meghan alerted the chairs that there will be emphasis on updating the strategic plan this year, which is the last year of the previous five-year plan.
- An interim accrediting team from the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) will be visiting the campus October 18 and 19.

General Education Course Enrollments

- There was general discussion on the negative impact of eliminating block registration on CotS enrollments. There was also general discussion on the Computer Science Department model of adding necessary labs sequentially so that resources aren't allocated to hiring unnecessary lab instructors.

Policy Manual - Provisional Approval of Section

- After discussing proposed changes to section 7 line-by-line the chairs adopted the changes on a provisional basis so that the updated policy manual could be posted on the COTS website, <https://www.cwu.edu/~cots/docs/cotspolicymanual2004-09.pdf>. For the record, Carin Thomas, Chemistry Department Chair, dissented.