

**Council of Department Chairs
College of the Sciences, Central Washington University
Regular Meeting, February 17, 2005
10:30 a.m., Science 301**

Attending:

Barlow, Kathleen - Anthropology
Boersma, Stuart F. - Mathematics
Brown, James R. Jr. - Political Science
Darda, David - Biology
Ely, Lisa L. - Geology
Johnson, Kirk A. - Sociology
Lillquist, Karl D. - Geography

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

Department Reports:

Anthropology

- Lori Sheeran and Mary Lee Jensvold have received a Seed Grant from the Office of Graduate Studies, Research and Continuing Education for their project, "Laughter in Chimpanzees (Pan troglodytes): Function and Evolutionary Significance."
- Tracy Andrews has received Seed Grant funding from OGSRC for her project, "Culture, Environment and Health: Linking Traditional Healing and Biomedicine in Treatment of Childhood Illness." She was also awarded a Summer Quarter 2005 research award from the Faculty Development and Research Committee.

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Biology

- James Stegen, B.S. Biology CWU has finished his master's program at Eastern Washington University and is now in the Ph.D. program at the University of Arizona in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology (working with one of the country's rising stars in community ecology).
- Progress is being made on the Animal Physiologist search. Three candidates are scheduled for on-campus interviews. The first candidate is visiting now.
- The 4th annual Darwin Day is scheduled for Feb. 23 at 7pm in McConnell. Presented by the Biology Department and Theater Arts Department, the evening is titled "The Challenge of Fundamentalism" and will feature a production of the court scene from the play "Inherit the Wind". In addition, Steve Verhey, Biology and Heidi Szpek, Philosophy will speak, and a panel discussion will be held. The Department of Anthropology and COTS are contributing sponsors.

Chemistry

- Anthony Diaz will co-teach the Science Honors Junior Seminar with Andy Piascek this spring 2005.

Mathematics

- *Yvonne Chueh* had a paper appear in *Contingencies*, a publication of the American Academy of Actuaries, titled "Efficient Stochastic Modeling: Scenario Sampling Enhanced by Parametric Model Outcome Fitting".
- *Stuart Boersma* had a paper appear in *Math Horizons*, a publication of the Mathematical Association of America, entitled "A Mathematician's Look at Foucault's Pendulum".
- *Stuart Boersma* and *Yvonne Chueh* went to lunch with representatives from SAFECO and Symetra insurance companies. They were both on campus recruiting for internships and permanent positions. Safeco mentioned how impressed they have been with actuarial science students from CWU. Word is SAFECO has given the Actuarial Science program a \$2,000 gift.
- *Aaron Montgomery* was awarded a Seed Grant.
- Candidates will be on campus this week and next for interviews.

Physics

- *Sharon Rosell* has been named to the nominating committee of the Northwest Section of the American Physical Society.
- The CWU Astronomy Club will be featured on the Wildcat page of the February 23 Daily Record.
- Physics major *Tony Smith* was accepted into the Science Honor's program.

Sociology

- *Nancy Wessel* has had a paper accepted for the Global Internship Conference, Amsterdam NE, "Preparing to Work Abroad, the Social Psychology of Culture Shock." April 5-9, 2005

Tenure/Promotion/Reappointment Processes:

Meghan asked the chairs to contact the dean's office to schedule meetings with the chair, a personnel committee representative, and the dean.

Visitor for next meeting

Pam Zupan will meet with the chairs March 3 to review the process of rewriting position descriptions for office support staff.

Development Officer:

George Cole reported that the process of sending department mailings should begin soon but noted that any he would appreciate any help the chairs could give him identifying people to include in mailing lists. He noted that several people have been contacted about the possibility of serving on a development community council. He solicited suggestions for department level funding priorities as well as federal funding "ask". Phase II of the Science Building was one suggestion.

George Cole and Meghan briefly reported on a recent conference they attended sponsored by the Council for Advancement and Support of Higher Education (CASE) which underscored the need for teamwork between the development officer and the dean. George noted that the discussions on the roles of the dean, the development officer and department chairs were most helpful. It appears that several other universities are in the same phase of development growth as CWU.

Revised Grant Pre-proposal Form

Meghan circulated a copy of the revised the Pre-Proposal Acknowledgement Form available at the following URL: http://www.cwu.edu/~masters/forms/doc/Pre_Proposal_Acknowledge.doc.

CotS Strategic Plan

A revised version of the COTS Strategic Plan which was circulated and briefly discussed.

University Master Plan:

Meghan circulated a draft of her response to Bill Vertrees on the Facilities and Development Master Plan.

Department Chair Elections

Meghan noted that the contracts for the chairs of Chemistry, Geography, and Sociology will expire in June. She will solicit nominations and conduct elections this spring.