

**Council of Department Chairs
College of the Sciences, Central Washington University
Regular Meeting, January 25, 2007
10:30 a.m., Science 301**

Attending:

Barlow, Kathleen - Anthropology	Miller, M. Meghan, Dean
Boersma, Stuart F. - Mathematics	Palmquist, Bruce - Physics/Science Education
Darda, David - Biology	Schaefer, Todd - Political Science
Ely, Lisa L. - Geology	Schwing, James L. - Computer Science
Johnson, Kirk A. – Sociology Chair and Associate Dean	Stein, Stephanie - Psychology
Kuhlken, Robert T. - Geography	Reimund, Mary Ellen - Law and Justice
Kurtz, Martha J. – Chemistry and Science Education	

Department Reports:

Anthropology

- Karl Heider, Associate Provost and Dean at University of South Carolina, is here to share his expertise in visual anthropology. He has literally written the book on visual anthropology, and Thurs. evening will be present at a screening of Dead Birds, an ethnographic film about the Dani of West Papua that is now on the National Register of films.
- Tracy Andrews has been invited by the Wenner-Gren Foundation to apply for the position of editor of Current Anthropology, one of the four or five most widely read journal in the field of anthropology.

Biology

- Steve Wagner attended the Mathematics Meetings in New Orleans in early January and gave a presentation with Tim Englund from the Math Department.
- Paul James and Kris Ernest received funding from the CotS equipment grant program for teaching and research equipment for field biology studies.
- Dan Selski, Jason Irwin, and Dave Darda received funding from the CotS equipment grant program for anatomical models, skeletal material, and a cadaver for teaching Human Anatomy and Physiology.
- Biology student, Amy Redburn was accepted into Case Western Dental School.
- Jim Johnson and Steve Wagner have received funding via a contract with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife for work with amphibian fungal infections.
- The informational meeting about the I-90 Snoqualmie Pass East Project and potential associated research opportunities held Friday, January 19 was well attended.
- The next Natural Science Seminar will be at 4:00 this Friday, Jan. 26 in Science 147. The speaker will be Dan Selski, CWU Biology. His presentation title is: "Attempts to Kill Bone Cancer: Identifying a Bone-Specific Gene Promoter to Express Cytotoxic Drugs".
- Upcoming Darwin Day celebration seminars:
 - "Charles Darwin, His Life and Times" - Monday, February 12, - 7:00pm, SUB Theater
 - "Periodical Cicadas: The Plague and the Puzzle" - Tuesday, February 13, 4:00pm, Science 147
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Chemistry

- Carin Thomas, Stephanie L. Bryner (undergraduate), Eric L. Bullock, Anne M. Johansen, Justin M. Johnston (graduate student) and Josie K. Wells (undergraduate) submitted a 4-paged extended abstract to the general papers of the Environmental Chemistry Division of the upcoming National ACS meeting and were asked to present an oral Platform Presentation. Title: Correlation of Atmospheric Ultrafine Particle Iron and Mitochondrial Toxicity.
- David Lygre's calendar of scientific events is now on the chemistry department website (www.cwu.edu/~chem).

Computer Science

- Two faculty: Razvan Andonie and Jim Schwing, and three students: Sarah Abdul-Wahid, Joseph Lemley, and Jonathan Widger, had a paper accepted at the Parallel and Distributed Scientific and Engineering Computing workshop at The 21st International Parallel and Distributed Processing Symposium (IPDPS-07). Title: Adaptive Distributed Database Replication Through Colonies of Pogo Ants.

Geography and Land Studies

- Anthony Gabriel, Karl Lillquist, and Allen Sullivan, along with Resource Management graduate students Janet Rhoades, Gretchen Volker, Andrew Perkins, and Ryan Karlson, all will be presenting research at the upcoming Northwest Science Conference in Victoria.

- Allen Sullivan reports that the Gladmar Park negotiations have resulted in the successful long-term lease of that property as an educational and research site now available for use by K-12 and higher education institutions. Allen has been the lead CWU faculty member involved in this cooperative venture between the university's Office of Graduate Studies, Kittitas County, and the Cascade Land Conservancy.
- Elaine Glenn was invited to present an award to her graduate mentor, BYU geography professor Richard Jackson, at the Lake Tahoe meetings of NCGE (National Council for Geographic Education).
- Cameron McCormick will once again be offering his summer geography field course in Zambia for CWU students who wish to travel abroad to study aspects of this little-known area of Africa. See: <http://websolutions.clt.cwu.edu/studyabroad/Programpages/Zambia/FacLedZam.php>.
- Gina Bloodworth just returned from the National Science Foundation meetings in Washington, D.C., where she served on the geosciences preliminary proposal review panel for the PIRE (Partnerships for International Research and Education) 2007 grant cycle. See: <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2006/nsf06589/nsf06589.htm>.
- Interviews with Morris Uebelacker and Robert Kuhlken are featured prominently in a new documentary film about the changing landscapes of Hanford and the Tri-Cities region. Directed by Minnesota-based filmmakers Grant Aaker and Josh Wallaert, it is titled Arid Lands <<http://www.sidelongfilms.com/aridlands/film.html>>. The film had its premier public screening on January 13, 2007 at the Wild and Scenic Environmental Film Festival <<http://www.wseff.org/>>, in Nevada City, California. This festival was founded on a vision to use film to inspire activism on behalf of the environment and encourage stewardship of the planet, and has become the largest festival of its kind in the nation. Director Josh Wallaert reported in an e-mail that Arid Lands played to an enthusiastic audience at its premiere screening, received a standing ovation, and also earned the festival's "People's Choice" award.
- Jennifer Lipton has been notified that her recent article from Climatic Change, "Adaptive Governance and Climate Change in the Tropical Highlands of Western South America", has been selected by eminent Australian National University geographer Harold Brookfield for the prestigious People Land Management and Ecosystem Conservation PLECserv electronic digest <<http://c3.unu.edu/plec/>>, whose stated objective is "to inform the scientific and professional community concerned with rural development and conservation in smallholder farming regions of the developing world, by calling attention to recent publications, new research methodology, and developments in agrobiodiversity, in the study of farmer innovation and farmers' technical knowledge, and in development practice."
- Robert Kuhlken reports on his latest publication, "Agricultural Landscapes of Kadavu: Persistence and Change on the Fijian Periphery" which is based on field studies originating in his doctoral dissertation. The chapter is the longest in a book designed as a Festschrift volume for Professor Harold Brookfield, edited by John Connell and Eric Waddell: Environment, Development and Change in Rural Asia-Pacific, pp. 56-75, London: Routledge Press, 2007.

Geological Sciences

- Wendy Bohron is participating and presenting a talk at a volcanology workshop in Chile this month.
- The U.S. Geological Survey funded a proposal by Tim Melbourne in the amount of \$270K
- Beth Pratt-Sitaula chaired a session and gave an invited talk, "The Indian Monsoon: from mountain building to air quality" at the Indo-American Frontiers of Science Symposium sponsored by the National Academy of Science. It was a conference to bring together young Indian and American scientists from a variety of disciplines to share what is hot and happening in their sphere of study.

Mathematics

- The tenure-track search is moving along. The committee expects to recommend three finalists for campus interviews in the next day.
- Yvonne Chueh and C.T. Lin both recently attended and presented at the 6th Annual Hawaii International Conference of Statistics and Mathematics. Dr. Lin's paper was title "Bernoulli Probability and Independence Based on Longest Run" and Dr. Chueh's was titled "Maximum Likelihood Probability Model Fittings for Insurance Model Outcome - Enhancement for Tail Distribution Capturing".

Physics

- The Society of Physics Students and Sharon Rosell presented a hands-on physics workshop for preschool children and some of their younger siblings from St. Andrew's Preschool and Rise and Shine Preschool, on January 17.
- The Society of Physics Students has received a national Outstanding Chapter Award for the 2005-2006 school year.

- The Society of Physics Students has received a national Undergraduate Research Award for a project titled "Electronic Realization of Chaotic Systems" for \$1850. They will be working with Michael Braunstein on the project. Only six SPS Chapters in the national received a research award this year.

Psychology

- The School Psychology program just received notice that we have been granted Full Approval from the National Association of School Psychologists from January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2013.
- Gene Johnson applied for and received a grant from the Woodcock-Munoz Foundation for \$4,300 worth of tests and assessment materials for the School Psychology program.
- The Experimental Psychology search committee has completed phone interviews and is ready to submit a list of candidate that they wish to bring to campus for interviews.

Science Education

- Ian Quitadamo has a Science and Children manuscript in press co-authored an in-service teacher titled "A Habitat for All: Engaged Ecosystem Learning" by Wood, Quitadamo, DePaepe, and Loverro.

Minutes of date January 18, 2007

The January 18, 2007, minutes were approved as revised.

Friday Fest – February 9

Meghan reminded the chairs that there would be a Friday Fest February 9 from 5:00 through 7:00 at Grupe Center.

Searches

Meghan advised the chairs that it would be good to submit written requests to interview candidates to avoid triggering computer generated notices to other candidates that they are no longer being considered. At that stage she would like hard copies of the applicant flow log with rationale, curriculum vitae, and reference letters.

Collective Bargaining Agreement and the Role of Chairs

There was broad discussion of contract implementation, impact on chairs, department-level policy development, and assignments of responsibility for routine business. As part of the ongoing discussion about chair responsibilities, Meghan outlined the process she used to weigh the five elements that determined chair stipends and release time for the 2006-07 chair assignments.

CAT TRACKS and SOURCE

Roberta Soltz and Lisa Garcia-Hansen are in the process of developing CAT TRACKS recruiting project to coincide with SOURCE this year. Kirk Johnson will be bringing related issues to the chairs as they arise.

Adjunct Pools

Meghan identified new procedures that are being piloted for hiring adjunct faculty effective fall quarter. The Computer Science Department will participate in a pilot project to implement the new process. Mary Ellen Reimund noted that the new procedure would be burdensome for the Law and Justice Program because of its various instructional needs at the centers as well as on campus.

Medical Information

Meghan distributed a memorandum from the Provost dated December 15, 2006, outlining the procedure to follow when staff members receive documents that include personal medical data of students or employees.

Upper Division General Education for Bachelor of Applied Science Degrees

Meghan distributed an email from Linda Beath requesting faculty assistance in developing upper-division courses that meet general education needs of students in Bachelor of Applied Science degree programs. Courses that use of distant education technologies are of particular interest.

NCATE

Meghan distributed a list of faculty from whom we need vitae for the NCATE review. She asked the chairs to notify her if any of the listed faculty should be deleted from the list. The chairs also discussed a list of courses for which syllabi have or have not been submitted for the NCATE review. The NCATE visit will be May 5-9, 2007.

Bookshelf Nominations

The chairs discussed a request from Rob Lowery for nominations of books authored by CWU faculty within the past to be included to a "bookshelf" page in the upcoming Central Connections.

Next Meeting - Elements of the Facilities Master Plan

At the February 1 meeting, BCRA design consultants and JoAnne Hillemann will seek input from the chairs on aspects of the facilities master plan that could affect CotS departments.

The remaining regular meetings this quarter will be February 8, February 22, and March 8.

Diversity Workshop Reminder

There will be a diversity workshop February 15 from 10:00 a.m. through noon in Grupe Center.

Dean Off-Campus Plans

1. March 16-26 (spring break, plus Friday and Monday)

2. March 28-30
3. May 21-25