

Council of Department Chairs
College of the Sciences, Central Washington University
Regular Meeting, March 19, 2009
10:30 AM – Dean Hall 359

Present:

Kathleen Barlow, Anthropology
Wendy Bohrson, Geology
David Darda, Associate Dean
Mike Jackson, Physics
Paul James, Biology
Kirk Johnson, Dean
Cindy Klein, Secretary
Martha Kurtz, Science Education

Aaron Montgomery, Mathematics
Jim Huckabay, Geography
JoAnn Peters, Chemistry
Charles Reasons, Law & Justice
Todd Schaefer, Political Science
James Schwing, Computer Science
Stephanie Stein, Psychology
Brian Jacobson, Development Officer
Hong Xiao, Sociology

Absent:

Martha Kurtz

Changes to the Agenda

None

Approval of the Minutes

Joann Peters made a motion to approve the minutes as written; the motion was seconded by Jim Huckabay. The motion carried.

Information Items and Requests

None

Reports

Dean Kirk Johnson

Kirk told each department to prepare their next year's budget with a 10% cut from their ledger one budget. He will e-mail all department budgets to Chair's this afternoon. He needs revised reports e-mailed to him by the middle of next week (3/25/09). He then will prepare a COTS report for the Provost which is due on April 2nd. Kirk said that chairs should expect additional meetings at odd times as things progress on this. He explained that traditionally at CWU an infusion of money is put into each college to get them through spring quarter. Kirk has requested \$40,000 for COTS to pay instructors through spring quarter. Everyone is waiting for the legislature's word whether the 1.7 million will have to be returned from this year's state allocation or not.

There will be heavy focus on the workload plans and how faculty are being used for the University. As exact budget cut amounts become clearer there may be a re-shuffle of programs etc in an effort to balance the general education classes and the upper level classes. It will come down to enrollment and which classes are in highest demand.

There was lengthy discussion on how instructors can do more teaching and less research as it might relate to their promotion process in the future. Kirk was extremely complimentary of the personnel committee and the detail in which they have done their reviews. He said he would like to have them speak at an upcoming chairs meeting and explain their “gate keeping” process to the group.

Associate Dean Dave Darda

Dave reported that the COTS Review Committee evaluated the 14 Undergraduate Research Grant requests and were able to fully fund 4 of and partially fund an additional subset. The Summer Faculty Research Grant requests are also being reviewed and this year a total of 19 were submitted. The committee plans to finish next week. Dave said that the both the quantity and quality in both groups of requests has greatly improved over years past.

He shared that Summer Session is right around the corner and that Geoff Foy and the Office of Continuing Education would like to have training for all department secretaries on this year’s contract request process. Dave will notify chairs when a date is given from Cont. Ed.

Dave will be teaching a class spring quarter and said he will respond as quickly as possible to all correspondence.

Development Officer Brian Jacobson

Brian reported that they have 5 judges in place for SOURCE and that there is a potential for some funding. The Development Office is actively looking for some candidates for the development council. Please let Brian know if you or someone you know may want to be considered.

Discussion Items

Dean’s Excellence Award and Teacher/Scholar nominations

Ballots were in packets and chairs voted and turned in paper ballots to Cindy Klein.

First Year Interest Group

Kirk explained the handout from Tracy Pellet.

Campus Planning

Campus Planning Study by Mithun Architects-deadline is April 14th for chairs to submit electronically directly to Mithun and cc Kirk for departments as listed: Biol/Chem/Computer Sc /L & J/Math/ Psych/Soc. Kirk said that Math and Science Ed will be given later as he has not been given their information yet.

6. For the Good of the Order

Meeting Adjourned: 12:10pm

Head’s Up

Spring COTS Chair Meetings: April 2nd, April 16th, April 30th, May 14th, May 28th

