

Minutes

of the Physics Department meeting
held on Wednesday, Feb 19, 2014 in UH168.

Present: Benjamin, Boukahil, Constantinescu, Nawash, Sahyun, Rybski, Yavuzcetin
Absent: None

- I. Benjamin called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm.
- II. Rybski/Boukahil moved approval of minutes of Feb 12, 2014 meeting. Motion passed.
- III. Old Business
 - a. Sahyun/Constantinescu moved approval of Departmental Student Resume policy given below. Motion passed.

“As part of each semester’s advising session, students will be required to submit an up-to-date version of their resume before their advising hold can be lifted. The advising hold will be lifted only after the ADA has received an updated electronic version of the resume. Resumes from previous semesters will be archived to look at student progress and program assessment.

Advising evaluation sheets shall be modified immediately to reflect this new requirement.

Required elements for the department resume will be the following:

- Revision date
- Current GPA
- Career objective
- Expected graduation date
- Emphasis and dual/degree or transfer plans.

The resume should also include participation in appropriate student and community organizations, research projects, internships, and relevant job skills.”

- b. Final schedules for Fall 2014 were distributed for review. Benjamin asked for people to list their committee assignments.
 - c. Discussion of Revision of Exit Interviews was postponed.
 - d. Updates on the status of finding internships for students was postponed.
 - e. Updates on the status of signing up for school outreach was postponed.
 - f. Estimates of upper level course enrollments and discussion of advising issues was postponed.
 - g. Other Old Business
- IV. New Business

- a. Anne Hamilton (Coordinator, International Studies Program) and Michaela Auerbach (Study Abroad Coordinator) explained how they are trying to identify appropriate study-abroad programs for individual majors. The ultimate goal is to show a map where different majors can study abroad. She provided a list of geographically diverse programs that looked like they would provide our physics majors with study-abroad opportunities during the semester. All programs teach their classes in English.

Constantinescu asked about the issue of pre-requisites for courses at these institutions. Umea, Hertfordshire, and Queensland U have bilateral tuition agreements. In other programs, students pay tuition to other universities. This can also include fees. Rybski asked about ISA (International Study Abroad) programs. Constantinescu asked if we have any affiliation with Erasmus. The answer was that many times, our students would be doing orientation with Erasmus, but the programs are only loosely affiliated.

Rybski asked about the safety issue for students in study abroad programs, particularly the Hyderabad and South Africa programs. Auerbach noted that if our department is not comfortable with a program, they do not have to include these programs in our departmental recommended list. She did note that some programs do training on safety issues. The department then shared some of our past student experiences in these programs.

- b. Sahyun recommended several pieces of equipment to consider for CAP. The department initially ordered the priorities as (1) 3-voltage power supplies for Electrons, (2) 13 electroscopes, (3) three PASCO 850 Lab Interfaces (and softwares), (4) three additional ballistic pendula. Sahyun will check on pricing issues and the department will discuss this again next week.
- c. Benjamin shared his progress on the Lab Modification request for new computers in Upham 58. He and Sahyun will review this before submission on Friday.
- d. There was no other New Business

V. Announcements

- a. Chair's Announcements
 - i. Benjamin asked for volunteer to attend Assessment Day presentations: Tues, Feb 25 from 12:30-4:30 in UC 259/261/266 with posters in Hamilton Room 3-4:30pm (www.uww.edu/acadaff/assessment/aday). Sahyun volunteered to attend some of this.

- ii. Advising season starts on Feb 24. Please make sure you fill in the full (predicted) course schedule for all your advisees and give to Patti Filipiak.
 - iii. SPS elected its new president (Alexandre Fernandes) and treasurer (Alex Orchard) on Fri, Feb 7. Congratulations to both! This week, students will get to play with our electrostatics demonstration equipment.
 - iv. L&S Career Day is Monday, April 14. There will be 3 panels in UC 259: Young Alum Panel (Noon-1pm), Major Doesn't Matter (1:15-2:15pm) and Confessions of a Hiring Manager (2:30-3:30pm).
 - v. Please make sure to turn in academic progress reports for athletes and "at-risk" students. Students who were prompted to meet with their advisors had an average GPA of 2.6. Students who did not get prompted had an average GPA of 2.2.
 - vi. Please fill out CSD survey. It only takes a minute.
- b. There were no University, College and Department Committee Reports
 - c. Benjamin announced that he had submitted a Wisconsin Space Grant Consortium Research Infrastructure Grant proposal to support his new effort on variable stars. This was a grant for \$4963 with 1:1 matching funds from the College of L&S.
- Sahyun/Constantinescu moved to adjourn at 6:32. Motion passed.

Submitted by B. Benjamin, secretary of the day

Cc: Dean David Travis