

ESA MEETING 5/11/15

Present:

Julie Bray-Ali (JBA), Mark Boryta (MB), Becca Walker (BW), Heather Jones (HJ), Craig Webb (CW), David Mrofka (DM), Mike Hood (MH), Hilary Lackey (HL)

1. April minutes approved

2./3. Chairs Meeting/PIE:

-Get curriculum changes into div office ASAP. Early in, early out.

-Program level reviews (NEW SLO outcomes format – Outcomes Mapping) Most of our boxes will be "I" and "P" since our program has no certificates

-PIE needs to include staffing needs, large item purchases (tie to SLO or PLO) [This is a completely ineffective way to assess success. Not a good educational process. Almost like falsifying data. –BW & MB]

-Need to a dept photo. [even if HJ is in Yosemite. Dept wants to go with HJ to Yosemite for dept photo.]

-5/14 STEM center meeting

4. Adjunct evaluation update:

Make sure adj evals get into MB. MB will do will the H8, plug numbers into H2 and send H4 to MB. ASAP.

5. Chair Elections:

MB and JBA are voted unanimously as dept chairs by acclamation.

6. Curriculum Updates:

ASTR 11 – intro to astrophysics, sent back for rationale for stand alone status.

7. New ESA hire:

Dr. Tanya Anders, PhD in oceanography. Teaching faculty member at Texas A&M with 5 class load per semester. Interested in coastal field experience for UG. She's excited to join a student focused department. Dept is excited to have hired such an excellent candidate.

We need to let her know what equipment we have related to oceanography so we can order what we need to order on July 1.

(related: Jessica Draper is trained for purchase requests)

TENURE COMMITTEE – HL, DM, BW, JBA, CW would like to serve. 4 are needed. HL, DM, JBA will serve with a 4th being either CW or BW.

The dept consensus

8. FA Report:

Conflict of interest statement – Dept support this statement

Summer voting – Dept supports delaying vote so that a larger amount of ballots are returned.

CW: It should be the primary concern of the FA to maximize voter return. Vote returns routinely below 20% is pathetic. Inconveniencing a very small number of faculty with altered schedules tied to a new contract should not be a priority. Just another example of the FA serving the needs of a few at the expense of the whole.

9. AS Report:

- Committee vacancies shared with us via email. If interested email BW or AS Pres
- May 31 EDC reviews need to be in stage 5.

10. Planetarium & Observatory report:

Constellation Labs have a low turnout at this point. Perhaps make it mandatory, not extra credit. Or only offer it once a month. Students typically don't pass until after three times. What should we do to increase participation? Or should it not be offered after this spring?

Resolved: labs will not be offered after this spring but can be scheduled.

11. Summer STEM program:

Mt SAC STEM students teaching 6-9 graders during summer session. Observatory and planetarium will be used as well as vet tech and histotech. 4 off campus field trips (marine biology, JPL, Boeing, mineral/gems, San Andreas options). Really involved group excited about teaching STEM and they get paid. Great experience. 2-3yr program.

12. Kepler lecture was a great success. Lots of money was raised (\$11,000?).

-Sunday Planetarium Birthday party needs to be scheduled.

-Purchasing: follow up as needed.

-The Dept. would like to acknowledge the dedication and exceptional work of our dept chairs Julie Bray-Ali and Mark Boryta. While the recent returns on our Dept Chair reviews may have lacking in numbers, the Dept universally appreciates the hard work they do. The lack of returns should not be interpreted as a lack of support or appreciation by the Dept.

13. June Meeting:

June 8th: Larry will scope out location

14. End of semester party:

Dave's house June 5th or 6th.