

**Minutes of the
PALS Faculty meeting, September 13, 2002**

PRESENT: BALA, BARNES, BENSON, BERKEBILE, BILLIOT (E), BILLIOT (F), BLOUNT (GP), BLOUNT (KP), BUCK, CHRISTENSEN, CABRERRA, CAMMARATA, CHOPIN, COOK, FOX, HICKMAN, LARKIN, LEHMAN, LOTER, MACDONALD, MCKEE, MAURSTAD, MORVANT, MOTT, MOURY, NAEHR, SILLIMAN, SMITH-ENGLE, STUNZ, THOMPSON, TISSOT, TUNNELL

1) Announcements:

- Peer Mentoring Reception, 9/17, 6:30PM (Maurstad)
- UTMB Undergraduate Research Symposium (Maurstad)
- College Workload Release/Research Enhancement Committee for PALS (Morvant). Mark called for a vote to replace him on this committee and Kirk Cammarata was elected.
- Kirk also made an announcement about the upcoming USDA Genomics workshop to be held on campus 11/8 through 11/10.

2) Faculty Senate Report (Morvant) Mark reported on the Faculty Senate priorities.

3) Field Trip Scheduling Policy (Mott and Naehr). There was considerable discussions about the shortage of field vehicles and the driver shortage caused by a) the recent President's Council ruling to restrict the number of persons in our 15 passenger van, and b) the unavailability of a University bus. Grady suggested that we create a new faculty development opportunity for a Transportation and Field Activities Committee with Roy Lehman as chair. Roy accepted. He will be working with a committee to provide guidance and suggestions to Carl and to the Dean for remediating our transportation problems.

4) Program Reports:

- BIOL (Mott).
- CHEM (Morvant).
- CLSC (Thompson).
- ESCI and GEOL (Smith-Engle).

5) Report on Sept. 6th Micro-Retreat (Loter). There was considerable discussion about having a follow-up meeting and about the visioning and goal-setting process for the department. Eugene motioned and Phillipe seconded that we schedule a second meeting with Sam Ramirez. Joe Loter will follow-up with Sam on scheduling this event and setting an agenda for same.

6) Faculty development service opportunities: Volunteers for Chair Intern Positions finalized:

Spring and Summer 2003 Scheduling -	<u>Feri Billiot</u>
HEF allocations -	<u>Mott</u>
Computer Inventory & Upgrading -	<u>Naehr</u>
Budget overview and planning -	<u>Tissot</u>
Catalog revisions for 2003-2004 -	<u>Buck</u>
Travel allocations and prioritizing -	<u>Thompson</u>
New faculty orientations -	<u>Eugene Billiot</u>

PALS Newsletter and Video -
Transportation and Field Activities

Benson (both) and Larkin (video only)
Lehman

7) New degree proposal in [Biomedical Sciences](#) (Thompson). Christie presented the documentation on this new degree. PALS faculty approved it.

8) Shared annual evaluation methodology (Thompson). Christie presented a strawman for one possible change in our annual evaluation scheme. It will be posted here shortly. She requests feedback and discussion on the palsfac list-serve.

9) Reprise of new student evaluation instrument (Larkin). Patrick once again presented the plan we approved last spring. There was some discussion of using the first year's data as a pilot study. In the meantime, the plan we approved last spring will go into effect for this Fall's evaluations. Bala stated that these so-called measures of teaching effectiveness were severely flawed and that we should be concentrating on methods of measuring learning outcomes. Grady concurred.

10) New course proposals:

- [Chopin](#) both passed
- [Cook](#) passed
- [Buck](#) undergraduate section passed

FINAL - 09/13/02
AGENDA
PALS Graduate Faculty meeting, September 13, 2002

ADDITIONAL ATENDEES: CHAVEZ, HICKS, KNULL, NIPPER, SMITH, WALDBESER

- 1) Announcements? Dean Knull was treated to a rendering of Happy Birthday.
- 2) Membership nominations for Drs. [Ernesto Chavez](#) , Ian MacDonald, Greg Stunz, and Gregory Buck (see hard copies at meeting). Chavez, MacDonald, and Stunz were elected to regular membership. After considerable discussion and input from Dean Knull, it was decided that Buck should be appointed to the graduate faculty by the Dean.
- 3) Program reports:
 - BIOL (Hickman).
 - ESCI (Smith-Engle)
 - MARI (McKee)
- 4) Status report on Executive Review Committee for PhD document (Tunnell). Wes presented an outline for the work performed thus far and promised to have the draft document posted here soon.
- 5) Discussion and creation of a departmental policy on graduate faculty membership on committees. Wes was directed to have the doctoral faculty decide this issue.
- 6) Set meeting times for this year. Meetings will be held on every other first Friday of the month at 3:00PM starting with November 1st.
- 7) New course proposals for Spring/Summer 2003 ([Smith-Engle](#), [Cammarata](#), [Chavez](#), et al.) All three of these classes were approved.