

Minutes

PALS Faculty meeting, September 9, 2005, 2 PM

Present: Bala, E. Billiot, F. Billiot, G.P. Blount, K.P. Blount, Buck, Cammarata, Causgrove, Chopin, Eichubbl, Hickman, Grise, Lehman, McKee, Mott, Moury, Naehr, Overath, Silliman, Thompson, Tissot, Tunnell, Waldbeser. Staff Attending: Dial, Gonzalez, Martinez, McDaniel, Tyler

1) Announcements:

- Monday is 12th class day; deadline for -
 - Travel Requests for 2005-6. Send to Thomas Naehr
 - Outside Employment forms.
 - Syllabi turned in. Send as a MS Word-formatted email attachment. Dribbling in ☹
 - Send current vitae as MS Word-formatted email attachment.
 - Updated personal information (addresses, home phones, cell phones).
 - Update 2-year course planner.
 - Office hours posted on office door (at least 2 per week).
 - Everyone should be subscribed to the "pals", "palsfac", and "scitech" list-serves.
- Changes to lab or field trip fees? See Grady.
- Last chance to double check with Jere on PTRs.
- [Research Development Fund](#) (formerly Texas Excellence Fund) deadline is 9/19.
- Invitation to visit the renovated Conrad Blucher Institute on Friday, 9/23 at 11:00 AM.
- Provost's Research Release applications due to dean's office 9/23.
- TAMUS [Pathways to the Doctorate](#) at Kingsville. Submission deadline is 9/30/05. Click [here](#) for instructions.
- Research link added to new [PALS homepage](#). Please send info on your projects to [Janice](#).
- Fall 2005 Field Trip [Schedule](#) posted by Frank McDaniel.

2) Program Announcements and Updates:

BIOL, Joanna and Graham
CHEM, Joe
GEOL, Thomas
PHYS, Bala
SMTE, Philippe

BIMS, Dave
ESCI, Jennifer
MARI, David
Pre-Pro, Suzzette
[NOAA EPP](#), Kit

Dave Moury and Christie described their new BIMS adjuncts. Loter described some proposed changes to the Organic I requirements and introduced Eugene to update everyone on the status of the NMR site placement issues. Thomas stated that they have not had any action on the GEOL Program Review. McKee said that Robert Vega is adjuncting for MARI again and that Ashlee Simmons has been hired as the new program assistant for MARI. Kit cited the EPP RFP link above and asked for volunteers to work on this proposal.

3) Feedback on Faculty Senate Report? – Gregory Buck.

Greg described the new initiatives for Faculty Senate this year including looking into the alleged practice of W grades being handed out by the Dean of Students, the non-existence of COLA raises, junior faculty workloads, and also revisiting the P&T discussions first initiated by Bala.

4) Explanation and discussion of inventory issues and new [fees](#) for vehicles/boats. (Steve)

Steve announced that they will be instituting a new inventory control form for on-campus equipment use and again implored the faculty to advise lab coordinators whenever they move tagged equipment from its official location. he also asked that everyone report the movement into HRI of their tagged items. There

was a discussion of the relative inequities of the proposed new fee structures above. Greg Stunz volunteered to work with the staff on creating an equitable and implementable rental structure. He will also investigate the extraordinarily high boat insurance invoices and try to figure out why these expenses are not being paid by the university.

5) New class submissions: [SMTE 4273](#), History and Philosophy of Science (Philippe).

The proposed class was approved with a name change and with the conditions that the science requirements and a statement about “for teacher candidates only” be placed in the catalog description.

6) New Business?

There was a short discussion about the HRI move. In particular, Thomas asked if he can delay his move until the semester break. Since this involves the services of a hired moving company, Wes said that he would check on this request.