Minutes of the CSM Senate Meeting
Held on Monday, September 17th, 2012
2:30 – 4:00 P.M. at CSM Dean’s Conference Room

Members in attendance:
Catalin Zara, Mathematics, Chair
Chandra Yelleswarapu, Physics, Secretary
Manickam Sugumaran, Biology
Bob Wilson, Computer Science
Juanita Urban-Rich, EEOS
Michelle Foster, Chemistry

Members absent:
Robert Stevenson, Biology

Others in attendance:
William Hagar, Associate Dean, CSM
Marietta Schwartz, Associate Dean, CSM
Eugene Gallagher, EEOS for part of the meeting

Meeting was called to order at 2:35 pm.

Election of the Senate Chair: Juanita Urban-Rich nominated Catalin Zara for the Chair of the CSM Senate. Catalin has been unanimously elected as Chair of the CSM Senate.

Election of the Secretary of the Senate: Manickam Sugumaran nominated Chandra Yelleswarapu to continue as the Secretary. Chandra has been unanimously re-elected as Secretary of the CSM Senate.

Approval of the minutes of May 14th 2012 meeting.
Two modifications were suggested to the meeting minutes:

Under the section “Discussion about the Senate roster for the AY 2012-2013”

1. “Catalin Zara will be on Sabbatical in Spring 2013; a representative from Math will attend the Senate meetings in his absence,” to be replaced by “Catalin has applied for a sabbatical leave in Spring 2013.”

2. “Catalin argued that it should be represented by senior faculty, as some important decisions needs to be taken at times” to be replaced by “Catalin argued that it should be represented by senior faculty, as their experience will be beneficial in taking important decisions.”

With these amendments, the May 14th 2012 meeting minutes were approved unanimously.
Course change: EEOS 601 - Changes in title, description, and prerequisites.

Course Title: Introduction to Probability Models and Applied Statistics

Course Description: The course will analyze basic probability theory, probability distributions useful for modeling environmental processes — including binomial, Poisson, exponential, normal, geometric, hypergeometric, Chi-square, F, and Student’s t — conditional probabilities & Bayes’ theorem, random variables & expected values, the central limit theorem, and parameter estimation. The course focuses on software-based hypothesis testing including p-values & confidence limits, Monte Carlo simulations, Type I and II error & power, Student's t tests and non-parametric alternatives, contingency tables & goodness-of-fit tests, regression, correlation, and one-way randomized block ANOVA. The course will make extensive use of PC-based software (e.g., Matlab or R). Calculus is a prerequisite.

Pre-requisites: MATH 141 or MATH 146 or Permission of Instructor.

Rationale for the proposal: The new course description lists calculus as a requirement. For the last 12 years, the course has used a calculus-based text, and calculus was strongly recommended. Now, the course description makes that requirement explicit. Students from outside of UMB (e.g., MIT, U. Chicago) were having difficulty getting the course approved for transfer credit without an explicit calculus requirement.

The proposed changes were approved unanimously.

Course change: EEOS 630 - Changes in title and description

Course Title: Biological Oceanography

Course Description: The course analyzes the processes governing the population dynamics of phytoplankton, zooplankton, and benthos. The course stresses the interaction between marine biology and relevant aspects of physical, chemical and geological oceanography. The course has a special emphasis on applied benthic ecology, especially the effects of pollution on the coastal zone. Other topics include the microphytobenthos, modeling competition, predation & benthic community structure, zooplankton grazing & predation, satellite remote sensing, and the effects of climate change on marine populations. Calculus recommended, but not required.

Rationale for the proposal: This online course has been offered since 1993. Only UMB students are enrolling in this course. The instructor’s argument is that non-UMB students are unaware of this course because it has been invisible to online
searches. The new course description is more accurate and includes more keywords.

The proposed changes were approved unanimously.

**Course addition: Intro-D 120 CSM Freshman Transition Seminar**

**Course Title:** CSM Freshman Transition Seminar

**Course Description:** The Freshman Transition Seminar is a one-credit, pass/fail course intended to assist new freshmen in the CSM FIG program effectively transition into the college environment. Topics to be covered will include university resources and tools, academic planning, short- and long-term goal development, career exploration, and critical university skills.

**Rationale for the proposal:** The CSM Freshman Interest Group program is a new part of the Freshman Success Community initiative, but without the anchor Gateway Seminar. We feel that the students in the FIG would benefit from a one-credit course to assist them with the transition from high school to college, learn academic skills, etc.

The CSM Dean’s Office will provide the resources needed for running the course.

The proposed new course was pre-approved unanimously and will be sent to the Academic Affairs Committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 pm.