Minutes of the CSM Senate Meeting
Held on Monday, December 10, 2012
2.30 – 4.00 P.M. at Dean’s Conference Room

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

Members absent:
Juanita Urban-Rich, EEOS
Robert Stevenson, Biology

Others in attendance:
William Hagar, Associate Dean, CSM
Marietta Schwartz, Associate Dean, CSM

Meeting was called to order at 2:35 pm.

1. Approval of the minutes of November 19th 2012 meeting: the CSM Senate members unanimously approved the minutes.

2. Updates on previous actions:
   • The Provost approved the new course Intro-D121, approved by the CSM Senate in November 2012.
   • The Faculty Council approved the changes to EEOS 601 and EEOS 630, approved by the CSM Senate in September 2012.

3. Courses and Programs

   3a. Course Change: EEOS 611
   Course Title: Applied Statistics
   Course Description: This graduate statistics course is designed to prepare students to design and analyze experiments and field studies using ANOVA (Analysis of Variance) and regression techniques, including generalized linear models. Analyses will be performed using Matlab, SPSS/PASW or R.

   Rationale: The previous description, written decades ago, is inaccurate. SAS is no longer being used.

   The CSM Senate unanimously approved the proposed change in course description. It will be sent to the Graduate Studies Committee of the Faculty Council.
3b. Course Addition: CHEM 397
Course Title: Special Topics in Chemistry
Course Description: An advanced course offering intensive study of selected topics in chemistry. Course content varies and will be announced prior to registration. Several topics may be offered each semester.

Rationale: The Chemistry Department would like to be able to offer special topics courses to our majors as electives and to have the ability to try out new courses.

The CSM Senate unanimously pre-approved the proposed new course. It will be sent to the Academic Affairs Committee.

3c. Course Addition: CHEM 498
Course Title: Senior Thesis I
Course Description: This course, the first in a two-part sequence, contains both laboratory and classroom components. In the classroom, topics of interest to practicing chemists are discussed, including segments on scientific ethics, literature searches, and scientific writing. Students will also prepare two short presentations and regularly attend departmental research seminars, as well as beginning on their capstone research project. Both courses in the sequence are required for the Chemistry capstone requirement.
Pre-requisites: CHEM 254 or 252 AND any two of Chem 311, 312, 369, 370.

3d. Course Addition: CHEM 499
Course Title: Senior Thesis II
Course Description: This course, the second in a two-part sequence, contains both laboratory and classroom components. In the classroom, topics of interest to practicing chemists are discussed, including segments on scientific presentations (e.g., posters, PowerPoint, seminar talks) and career preparation. Students will regularly attend departmental research seminars, as well as continuing on their capstone research project. A paper of significant length and a research presentation are required. Both courses in the sequence are required for the Chemistry capstone requirement.
Pre-requisites: CHEM 498

3e. Program Change: Change in CHEM major requirements
The Chemistry Department would like to change the capstone requirement for all chemistry majors (both B.A. and B.S. students) to be “successful completion of either CHEM 491 or CHEM 498 and CHEM 499.”

Rationale: Currently the senior thesis course CHEM 491 is a 4 credit course offered once a year, yet the work students perform for their capstone project takes the entire academic year. Since the work is not complete by the end of the fall semester, students receive an INC in CHEM 491 that is then converted into a grade once the thesis is presented. This is both administratively cumbersome
and troubling for students applying for graduate school with INCs on their transcripts.

The Chemistry Department has decided to split its current capstone course CHEM 491 into CHEM 498 and CHEM 499 – each course being worth 2 credits. By splitting the capstone into two courses, students can receive grades for each course separately. CHEM 498 will be offered in the fall and CHEM 499 in the spring.

The CSM Senate unanimously pre-approved the proposed new courses CHEM 498 and CHEM 499. They will be sent to the Academic Affairs Committee.

The CSM Senate unanimously approved the proposed Change in CHEM major requirements. It will be sent to the Majors, Honors, and Special Programs Committee.

3f. Change in policy regarding AP Chemistry
Under the proposed new policy, if a student gets a 3 on their AP Chemistry exam, we will give credit for CHEM 903A – four credits of Chemical Principles I with lab, and if a student gets a 4 or higher on their AP Chemistry exam, we will give credit for CHEM 903A and CHEM 904A – eight credits of Chemical Principles I and II with lab.

Rationale: Recently the AP curriculum has been restructured bringing it more in line with the curriculum offered in our Chemical Principles curriculum, especially with respect to the laboratory component. Therefore the Chemistry department would like to change our policy to actually give students course credit for satisfactory scores on the AP Chemistry exam. In the past, they have waived Chemical Principles I for a score of a 3 on the AP Chemistry exam and waived both Chemical Principles I and II for a score of a 4 or higher on the AP Chemistry exam, but have never given course credit for the AP exam.

The CSM Senate unanimously approved the proposed Change in policy regarding AP Chemistry. It will be sent to the Majors, Honors, and Special Programs Committee.

4. Dean’s announcements: Marietta Schwartz announced that the Student Success Center is searching for two new advisors, one of whom will take on the premed/allied health advising role formerly filled by Grace McSorley in the University Advising Center. There are a number of faculty searches in progress.

5. Other business: None.

Meeting was adjourned at 3.25 pm.