

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Susan Coppersmith, Department Chair at 12:15 PM with 26 voting members present.

1. Announcements

Baha Balantekin, Eugene P. Wigner Professor of Physics, has been elected to the Executive Board of the American Physical Society (APS). APS with its 46,000 members is active in public and governmental affairs, and in the international physics community. In addition, it conducts extensive programs in education, public outreach, and media relations.

2. DOE Title IX Audit

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has selected the University of Wisconsin-Madison for an equal opportunity compliance review. The site visit is scheduled for April 1-3, 2008.

3. Effort Reporting

NSF will be doing a campus-wide audit. If you are contacted to participate in the audit, please contact Aimee Lefkow before you talk to NSF. Note that staff and postdocs paid 100% from grant funds and Faculty that have "bought out" with research money can not participate in department administration or proposal writing or renewals. There is mandatory online training on effort reporting.

4. Policies for Students with McBurney Certifications

Uniform Policy for the Physics Department—Faculty need to be responsible for all McBurney Certifications, not the TAs.

5. New Course—Rzchowski

Discussion of an Interdisciplinary course proposal by Marshall Onellion based on his recent book. Discussion included what semester(s) the course would be offered, how it will impact teaching loads, will the course be available for honors, changing the course description, and involving other departments. The discussion was deferred to next meeting.

6. Space Committee (continued discussion of 3119)—Saffman

Discussion for use of space. Motion to use half space to augment 407 Lab and the other half of the space to be decided at a later date. This motion was passed by unanimous consent.

7. Computing Committee Report—Smith

Room 1109 is on the fact track for summer 2008. There is now a list of applications/platforms that the department supports, and the level that they are supported. Tracking of IT resources and problems is working.

8. Report of Alumni Relations Committee—Barger

Motion for Outstanding Past Post Docs and Scientists was passed by unanimous consent.

9. Committees (discussion of new committees on web space and diversity)—Coppersmith

Motion to create two new department committees—one on climate & Diversity and the other on Web Issues. This motion was passed by unanimous consent. Anyone interested in serving on either committee should contact Sue Coppersmith.

10. Closed Meeting

The meeting was closed for discussion of personnel matters--pursuant to Section 19.85(1)(c).