

MINUTES

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

1. Announcements

The University has issued a policy that now requires new staff to undergo a criminal background check. No offers can be made prior to the background check. More information will become available.

2. Sterling Hall Remodel Update—Huber

Three segments to the remodel: 1917 area, courtyard, and labs (East wing-1959) will be done. Plans are done and will be bid (June 2008).

Everything must be removed by the end of the semester. Nothing will be able to be removed once the bid process has started.

1917 remodel will begin in September 2008 and finish July of 2009.

Lab remodel will involve new lighting, ceiling, and fire protection. Move back into basement in Summer 2009

Courtyard will begin in 2009 with a new roof September -October 2009, with completion expected in Late 2009-January 2010.

IceCube has officially requested space in Sterling.

Forest will present a whitepaper next semester on proposed use of space and request for new space: IceCube space, Server Room space (Math & Astronomy to possibly collaborate); a high-bay lab space.

3. New Course Proposal—Onellion

Discussion of an Interdisciplinary course proposal by Marshall Onellion based on his recent book.

Reactions: Enthusiastic; needs more quantitative; integrate more qualitative and quantitative; include quantum mechanics, cosmology & game theory; include at least one more professor; change title "faith" or "Belief."

Discussion was tabled until the next department meeting.

4. Research—Prager

Ad hoc committee on Scientist. Action items: appoint committee; oversight of titles/salaries; promotions (1-year); and research professor appointments.

5. Closed Meeting

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