



initiatives ongoing at UCA.

4. Reviving the high school workshops was discussed. It was pointed out that our student clubs staff these workshops. Plans will be developed to restart this annual event.
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- Dr. Garimella reported that approximately 120 high school students from Conway, Greenbrier and Russellville attended the Preparatory Sessions in AP Calculus, AP Statistics and AP Computer Science January 22<sup>nd</sup>. The sessions were held from 8:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. with a 30 minute lunch break. Both breakfast and lunch were provided by the UCA Office of Admissions. The event was coordinated by Dr. Umadevi G

## Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – January 31, 2011

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A meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held Monday, January 31, 2011. All chairs were present.

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- Dr. Hu reported that former President of Alltel Financial Service Division, Collins Andrews, spoke with upper level Computer Science students about career successes and opportunities on January 26<sup>th</sup>.



February 1<sup>st</sup>. His seminar was entitled *Multiple Mechanisms of Axonal Degeneration Share a Common Nmnat1-sensitive Pathway*.

- Dr. J.D. Swanson and UCA students, A. Kellogg, T. Branaman, N. Jones and C. Little, had a paper entitled *Morphological Studies of Developing Rubus Prickles Suggest that they are Modified Glandular Trichomes* accepted to be published in the Journal of Botany.
- The Biology Department will be interviewing 2 candidates for the Biology I and II Course Coordinator position Lecturer I during the week of February 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Dr. Mauldin reported Ms. Pam Massey from the Internal Audit office has recently asked him to complete an in-depth safety survey concerning lab safety within the Chemistry department. They will meet next month.
- Dr. Hu reported that the Computer Science Department participated in the Mayflower Schools Science Night February 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Dr. Garimella reported that the Mathematics Department is in the process of bringing in 6 candidates for the 2 open math positions.
- Dr. Addison reported that he, Drs. Carl Frederickson and Rahul Mehta will be taking 10 physics students to the University of North Texas in Denton, Texas to

## Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – February 14, 2011

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A meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held Monday, February 14, 2011. All chairs were present.

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1. Minutes from the 2-7-11 CoC were approved as amended.
  2. The Master Plan Kick-Off & Stakeholder Interviews January 21, 2011 report was distributed and discussed. Dean Runge asked the chairs to closely study the report and to send comments/suggestions to the Dean's office by noon Friday. It was recommended that the Academic Council also have an opportunity to review the report.
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1. Dean Runge gave an update of the STEM Coalition Board Meeting, which took place via conference call last week during the snowstorm. There will be a STEM Summit April 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> on Petit Jean Mountain. Governor Beebe will be invited to speak. Dean Runge encouraged the chairs to attend. The next general STEM Coalition Board Meeting is March 7<sup>th</sup> in Little Rock.
  2. Dean Runge reminded the council of Bear Facts Day on Friday, February 18

- Dr. Adams reported that the search for the open Biology I & II Course





- Dr. Adams reported that Dr. J.D. Swanson was elected to the US Rosaceae Genetics, Genomics, and Breeding Executive Committee for 2011-2014. Among other things, this group is charged with defining research priorities and coordinating interactions between researchers, industry, and the public on issues related to this large, important group of plants.
- Dr. Sally Entrekin and Dr. Ginny Adams recently attended a meeting of the Arkansas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society in Little Rock. Approximately 30 UCA students attended the meeting and students and faculty gave eight presentations. UCA student Loren Stearman won the Best Student Presentation award. Former student Richard Walker won the Best Professional Presentation. Clint Johnson was selected as the Best Student in the UCA student chapter for 2010. Dr. Ginny Adams was recognized for her service as Arkansas Chapter President for 2010-2011
- Dr. Mauldin reported that Dr. Cameron Dorey has resigned from the Chemistry Department effective the end of spring 2011. CNSM thanks Dr. Dorey for his years of service to the college and the UCA community.
- Dr. Hu reported that the Computer Science Department has received a \$500 scholarship from the Arkansas Academy of Computing.
- Dr. Garimella reported that mathematics and art major, Haley Miller, a recent UCA graduate, has been accepted to the UAMS Medical School. She worked with math major Derek Anderson under Dr. Fred Hickling on a undergraduate research project last fall. Haley and Derek presented their poster at the joint national meetings of AMS & MAA in New Orleans last month.
- Dr. R.B. Lenin gave a seminar titled



- Dr. Garimella reported that Dr. Pat Carmack gave a talk at the Brain Image Center (BIRC) at UAMS on February 25<sup>th</sup>.
- The ACTM Regional Math Contest will be held in the Department of Mathematics on March 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. Approximately 100 middle and high school students from this region are expected to participate in the event.
- Dr. Addison reported that he, Dr. Rahul Mehta, Dr. Carl Frederickson and six UCA physics students recently visited the University of North Texas to work

## Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – March 7, 2011

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A meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held Monday, March 7, 2011. All chairs were present except for Dr. Adams. Ms. Leah Horton attended representing the Biology Department.

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1. Minutes from the 2-28-11 CoC were approved as amended.
  2. Ms. Horton addressed the challenges regarding English-language proficiency in Biology classes, especially in some laboratories. Dean Runge pointed out that Dr. Alex Chen, Director of International Programs, has advised that if there is a problem the student should be directed to IEP for further testing and assistance.
  3. The GEP Student Cultural Information paperwork was distributed and discussed by the chairs. Both Dean Runge and Ms. Horton reported on a recent meeting with Dr. Alex Chen.
  4. The latest draft of the strategic planning initiatives was reviewed by the council of chairs. Several ideas for revisions were put forth. Dean Runge asked the chairs to get all changes to the Dean's office by noon Friday.
  5. Support for student travel to professional conferences was discussed. Preference will always be given to those students who are making presentations at the meetings. Requests for support from student clubs to attend their annual conferences will be considered each fall semester, but funding is not guaranteed and will be capped at a dollar amount to be determined. An announcement soliciting these types of group travel will be made early in the fall semester.
  6. The May 7<sup>th</sup> spring commencement was discussed. Dean Runge explained that the stage party is changing and Deans, Associate Deans and Chairs will be on stage. It will be necessary to appoint faculty to marshal the graduate and undergraduate lines. It was suggested that newly tenured faculty be given the opportunity to perform this function. Dean Runge also announced that the acoustic physics faculty with expertise in acoustics have been invited to address the acoustic problems in the Farris C enter.
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1. Dean Runge announced that a draft budget for academic affairs was passed out at the most recent COD.
  2. The COD has been discussing the 20% cap for scholarships to be met for all schools by 2012. UCA has already met this requirement but it was noted that UCA still spends more E & G on scholarships than any other state-supported school in Arkansas.



## Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – April 4, 2011

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A meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held Monday, April 4, 2011. All chairs were present.

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1. Minutes from the March 7, 2011 were approved as amended.
2. The Arkansas State Science Fair was discussed. Dr. Mark Bland has done an excellent job as director for the past five years but due to time restraints he has expressed the desire to step down from the position if sufficient reassignment cannot be accommodated within the Biology Department. The council presented other names within the college for consideration.
3. The 5-Year Minority Recruitment and Retention Plan for 2012-2017 was discussed. Provost Grahn has reviewed the CNSM draft diversity proposal and

2. Dean Runge received a thank you letter from the president of the pre-med club for assisting with their trip to a national conference with support split evenly between the Dean's Office and the Biology Department. Mr. Wilson Alobuia. Mr. Alobuia was elected at the meeting to the position of Regional Director for Region 7.
  3. Dr. Frederickson discussed the new UCA Financial Aid Office Student Funding Request form. Because of some confusion concerning this form Dr. Frederickson is going to meet with Ms. Cheryl Lyons, Director of Financial Aid for clarification.
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- Dr. Adams reported that he received a grant for \$21,000 from the Fish America Foundation and Perry County, Arkansas to study the effectiveness of a fish passage restoration project on Mill Creek.
  - Biology faculty and staff, including Kristie Hicks, Mark Bland, David Starkey, Jerry Mimms, Leah Horton and Leigh Ann DenHartog, were instrumental in





## Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – April 11, 2011

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A meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held Monday, April 11, 2011. All chairs were present.

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1. Minutes from the April 4, 2011 CoC were approved as amended.
2. Act 747 of 2011 was discussed. It was agreed that more deliberation is needed and faculty input needs to be solicited before any general recommendations can be made. It was noted that any curriculum change proposals from the departments need to be submitted no later than early in the Fall 2011 semester if we are to meet the deadlines outlined in the new law. Dean Runge asked the chairs to poll their respective faculty on the question.

4. Dean Runge informed the CoC that Ms. Berdie Eubank, Director of the Advising Center, has set June 2<sup>nd</sup> as the official date for advising of transfer students.
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- Dr. Adams reported that Richard Walker defended his Master's thesis in biology entitled *Movement Patterns of Southern Redbelly Dace in a Headwater Reach of an Ozark Stream*. Richard was recently employed by an environmental consulting firm in Arkansas.
  - Edward Kluender defended his Master's thesis in biology entitled *Seasonal Habitat Use of a Leviathan, Alligator Gar, in a River-Floodplain Ecosystem*. Ed was recently employed as an ecologist with the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality.
  - Dr. Ken Britten, Center of Neuroscience, University of California-Davis, presented a seminar in the Biology Department on April 8<sup>th</sup> as part of the Biology

- The Department of Mathematics is happy to announce that the two tenure-track searches for mathematics education faculty members have been successful. One position was accepted by Dr. Jason Martin, currently a postdoctoral scholar in the Research and Innovations in Mathematics and Science Education at Arizona State University. Dr. Martin received his Ph.D from the University of Oklahoma in August 2009. The second position was accepted by Ms. Jungeun Park. At present, Ms. Park is a doctoral student in mathematics education at Michigan State University. She defended her dissertation and will receive her Ph.D at the 2011 spring commencement. Both Dr. Martin and Ms. Park will join the Department as tenure-track assistant professors in August 2011.
- Dr. Umadevi Garimella (PI) and Dr. Ramesh Garimella (Co-PI) received a \$105,382 grant from the Arkansas Department of Higher Education for the project *Algebra I and Implementation of Common Core Standards*. Three mathematics faculty members, Drs. Ramesh Garimella, Linda Griffith, and Jean McGehee, will present the content workshops in summer 2011 to assist the Algebra I teachers implement the common core standards.
- Dr. Addison reported that the Physics Department was well represented at the Annual Arkansas Academy of Science Meeting at the University of Arkansas-Monticello on April 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. Students and faculty who represented papers or posters were, faculty: Stephen Addison, Debra Burris, Carl Frederickson, Rahul Mehta, and William Slaton; students: Petey Bland, Jacob Fenske, Roy (Trey) French, Vinh Lu, Tristan Odelirk, Niravkumar Patel, Jacob Teffs, Matthew Tubbs, Kristopher Watson, Jonathan White and Shuang Xu. Kristopher Watson won third place in the student poster competition with the poster: *Determining Neutron Flux of a Plutonium-Beryllium Source Using Neutron Activation of Indium*. (The poster included five co-authors).

## Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – April 18, 2011

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A meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held Monday, April 18, 2011. All chairs were present.

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1. Minutes from the 4-11-2011 CoC were approved as amended.
2. Act 747 of 2011 was discussed. Dean Runge asked the chairs for results of the polling of the departments concerning the 60-hour core and the 120-hour degree



- The Physics Department would like to congratulate its finalists in this year's UCA faculty awards. Dr. Balraj Menion, a finalist in the Teaching Excellence category, Dr. Rahul Mehta, a finalist in the Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity category and Dr. Debra Burris, a finalist in the Service category.

## Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – April 25, 2011

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A meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held Monday, April 25, 2011. All chairs were present except for Dr. Adams. Dr. Hill represented the Biology Department.

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1. Minutes from the 4-18-11 CoC were approved as amended.
2. Revision of the CNSM bylaws was considered. The draft bylaws prepared by the Dean's Advisory Committee was reviewed and edited, but not in its entirety. This review will continue at upcoming CoC meetings.
  
1. Dean Runge expressed appreciation for the outstanding Student Poster Symposium which took place Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> in the McCastlain Ballroom. There were 81 posters presented and 117 students involved. The Poster Symposium is on 117 posters presented and 117 students involved.



University in Portsmouth, Ohio, where Dr. Mauldin worked as a professor of chemistry for 14 years. While at Shawnee State, Jacob White took several classes with Dr. Mauldin, including Scientific Reasoning, General Chemistry and Analytical Chemistry. Jacob completed an undergraduate research project under the direction of Dr. Mauldin in which they analyzed the compound coniine in *Conium maculatum* (Poison Hemlock) in conjunction with Dr. Bob Deal, a botanist at Shawnee State. Also, Jacob worked as a student employee in the Office of the General Education Program for Dr. Mauldin as Director of General Education.

- Dr. Hu reported that Jason Barnes, graduating senior, is the winner of the Computer Science Thesis Award. The title of his thesis is *Optimal Phase Ordering of Traffic Signals to Reduce Stopped Delay*.
- Dr. Garimella reported that so far the Math Department has awarded 15 graduate teaching assistantships for the AY 2011-12. The distribution of assistantships is as follows: 5 new students in the MA program, 4 new students in the MS program and 6 second-year MS students. The Math Department will have at least 3 more assistantships to award for the next year.
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## Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – May 9, 2011

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A meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held Monday, May 9, 2011. All chairs were present except for Dr. Garimella. Dr. Clarence Burg represented the Math Department.

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1. Approval of minutes from 4-25-11 CoC and 5-6-11 CoC were approved as amended.
2. The upcoming Night of Distinction (May 14<sup>th</sup>) was discussed.

Congratulations to Ms. Leah Horton, STEM Residential College Resident Master, Mike Simpson, Arkansas Hall Resident Coordinator and all of the faculty, staff and students who contributed to the successful inaugural year for this program.

- No report.

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## Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – June 6, 2011

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A meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held Monday, June 6, 2011. All chairs were present except for Dr. Hu. Dr. Sun represented the Computer Science Department.

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1. The UTeach program for the preparation of secondary science and mathematics teachers was discussed. The week of May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Drs. Frederickson, Addison, Garimella and Bland attended the UTeach Conference in Austin, Texas. They updated the chairs' council on the conference. A future meeting with the College of Education administration was planned regarding the potential implementation of a program like UTeach at UCA.
1. Dean Runge reminded the chairs that the date for the annual chairs' retreat has been changed to June 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> at Red Apple Inn in Heber Springs.
2. Dean Runge reminded the chairs to nominate two faculty members to serve on the IDC panel. The purpose of the panel will be for faculty balancing their time as teacher-scholars. The names should be submitted to the Dean's office. Dr. Patty Phelps is the new IDC Director.
3. Dean Runge also prompted the chairs to submit the names of faculty interested in mentoring students from the Arkansas School for Mathematics, Science and the Arts on their summer research projects. Mentoring these student research projects will bring some high quality students into our research programs and it

- Dr. Adams reported that the search for the administrative assistant II is progressing.
- Dr. Mauldin reported that the faculty response to the Smart Boards being installed was positive.
- Three former chemistry students, Emily Malcolm, Brian Besel and Jabin Miller have been hired to work this summer to assist in addressing the concerns presented in the recent safety audit.
- Dr. Sun reported that the Computer Science Department REU students have selected research topics, formed research teams and formalized their research plans.
- The computer Science Department is working on scheduling and arranging various activities, including invited talks, industry panels, academic panels and field trips.
- Dr. Garimella reported that he and Drs. Linda Griffith and Jean McGhee attended a three-day workshop on May 9-11 at the Harding University Center in North Little Rock to finalize the Algebra I modules for all ADHE funded professional development projects for to implement the Common Core State



- The Center for Distance Health at the UAMS has offered a contract in the amount of \$16, 379 to Dr. R.B. Lenin to conduct research during this summer on optimal scheduling policy for patients to achieve minimum waiting time using the MedModel software.
- Drs. Ramesh Garimella, Clarence Burg and Vamsi Paruchuri participated in an invited panel presentation on the MSIT Academy @ UCA at the AUTIS meeting on May 18<sup>th</sup> in Hot Springs.
- Thirteen high school students in this region signed up the MSIT Academy @ UCA activities in cryptology and computation revolution. MSIT @ UCA will be

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- Dr. Mauldin has requested information on safety signs that can be posted on laboratory doors in our college. The signs were designed by the University of Arkansas and are printed by PMC Printing in Fayetteville. Each caution sign has:
  1. Removable labels for the particular hazards within each lab (e.g. compressed gases, radiation, eye protection required, etc.).
  2. The NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) diamond label without numbers in each of the blue, red, and yellow spaces (individuals can assign numbers based on what is in the lab and then write the numbers in the spaces) so that firefighter would know what hazards were in each lab in the event of a fire.
  3. A space for contact information. All of this is one sign rather than needing multiple signs for each door. Dr. Mauldin recommends the adoption of this sign for all of the doors to laboratories in our college.
  
- Dr. Hu reported that Dr. Victor Sheng received notification from the National





## Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – June 27, 2011

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A meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held Monday, June 27, 2011. All chairs were present.

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1. Minutes from 6-20-11 were approved as amended.
  
1. Dean Runge announced that he and Dr. Frederickson met this morning with the Web Development staff to discuss converting all CNSM web pages to Word Press. We are going to be allowed to do these conversions ourselves; training sessions will be scheduled in the near future. Dean Runge asked the chairs to carefully edit and update their department sites when converting to Word Press.
2. Jeff Pitchford and Venita Jenkins from Governmental Relations are compiling an online annual report for the past fiscal year. They have asked each college to submit a 500-word report. Dean Runge asked the chairs to assemble a list of bullet points promoting their departments by mid-July. These lists will form the foundation for the College report.
3. Ms. Leigh Ann DenHartog will be the CNSM representative to the UCA Media Communications Committee.
4. Dean Runge reminded the chairs of the General Education Meeting taking place July 6<sup>th</sup> between the CoD and the General Education Council.
5. The changes in the faculty handbook concerning appropriate titles for visiting faculty members were discussed. The term "emergency hire" will no longer be used. The titles of "visiting assistant professor" and "visiting lecturer" will be used from this point forward. A 3-year limit on visiting appointments begins August 2011.
6. Dean Runge reported on his trip to the Naval Medical Center in San Diego, June 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. He was encouraged by the many professional programs offered by the Navy and opportunities for CNSM graduates. A Navy representative will be on campus in November to address interested students and faculty advisors.

- No report.
- Dr. Mauldin reported that the dumbwaiter in Laney Hall has been repaired. The dumbwaiter provides a safe way to transport chemicals between the second, third, and fourth floors. At present, there is no safe option for transporting chemicals between research labs in the Laney Annex and the stockroom on the fourth floor. The only options now are the stairs and the passenger elevator.
- Dr. Hu reported that the Computer Science Department together with the Management Information Department (MIS) successfully hosted the Acxiom-UCA IT Camp June 22<sup>nd</sup> through June 25<sup>th</sup> here on campus. Acxiom sponsored the event this year.
- Dr. Adams reported that three applicants for the administrative assistant II position have been interviewed and a decision has been made. An announcement regarding the individual hired will be forthcoming.
- No report.

## Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – July 11, 2011

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A meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics



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3. The chairs were encouraged to attend the Strategic Planning Retreat on Thursday, July 14<sup>th</sup>. If a chair cannot attend, a representative from the department should be sent.

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- The Biology Department welcomes Kate Saunders to the office staff as an Administrative Specialist II.
- Dr. Faith Yarberry of the Department of Chemistry will serve as Resident Master of the Hughes Residential College, beginning with the fall semester of 2011. The appointment is for a two-year period. Dr. Yarberry will continue to serve as Lecturer I in the Chemistry Department with a reduced teaching load. Dr. Yarberry's involvement in this residential college, which has the theme of leadership, will be a significant contribution to the University as well as the College and the Department.
- The Computer Science Department hosted the CS4HS (Computer Science for High Schools) Workshop from July 11 through July 14<sup>th</sup>. Fifteen teachers from schools in central Arkansas participated in this workshop to promote computer science and computational thinking in middle and high schools. This workshop is funded by a grant from Google. Hu, Chen Nooner and Thessing worked with these teachers during the entire workshop.
- Dr. Garimella reported that Mr. Xianping Li has accepted a Visiting Assistant Professor position with the Math Department for the next academic year. Mr. Li will complete his Ph.D in Applied Mathematics from the University of Kansas in August.
- The search for a Visiting Lecturer position in Mathematics for next year is still underway.
- An Algebra II Workshop, supported by an MSP grant through the Arch Ford Coop, was held in MCST. Drs. Linda Griffith, Ramesh Garimella and Lee (from Kentucky) conducted workshops. The workshop started on Monday, July 11<sup>th</sup> and continued through Friday, July 15<sup>th</sup> with approximately 20 teachers attending.
- No report.

## Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – August 18, 2011

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A meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held Thursday, August 18, 2011. All chairs were present. Dr. Frederickson was absent.

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1. Minutes from the 7-18-11 CoC were approved as amended.
  2. Discussion and editing of the draft CNSM bylaws was continued from previous meetings. A draft was finalized and deemed ready to be presented to the CNSM faculty for a vote.
  3. The list of potential CNSM Advisory Board members was discussed. Discussion also included the role and philosophy of the Board.
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1. Dean Runge spoke about the Strategic Enrollment Management meeting that he had attended that morning. The meeting was hosted by Dr. Rob Parrent, VP for Enrollment Management, and led by Dr. Jim Black, our external consultant for enrollment management. The chairs were encouraged to attend the meeting with Drs. Parrent and Black at 1:30.
  2. Dean Runge discussed the incoming group of student in the Global Education Project (GEP). The four levels of English proficiency for these students were discussed.
  3. Dean Runge provided a Fall 2011 enrollment update.
  4. The issue of funding off-campus satellite offices was discussed.
  5. Dean Runge reported that proposals for additional federal student worker funding is due to the Provost Office Monday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>. They are due to the Dean's Office by noon on that date.
  6. Dean Runge announced that Provost Grahn is now UCA's point person for ADHE. Jonathan Glenn filled that role previously
  7. The locations of where UCA students working with Conway Public Schools will be placed is due to Dr. Jamie Alea in the College of Education in two weeks. The chairs were asked to send the information to the Dean's Office by September 6<sup>th</sup>.

8. Short-term study abroad was discussed. Topics included minimum enrollments, academic standards and ways to encourage more students to participate.
9. As part of the implementation of the approved UCA Strategic Plan, \$200,000 has been committed to bolster our Institutional Research operation and \$76,000 will be used to fund the full review of general education and to enroll UCA in the HLC Assessment Academy.
10. The recently passed law on performance funding and its impact on UCA and CNSM was discussed.
11. The chairs were encouraged to send their new faculty to the Winning Grants Workshop presented Dr. David Bauer September 1<sup>st</sup>.
12. Dean Runge has been selected to serve as the CoD representative on the UCA Budget Advisory Committee.



3.

Umadevi Garimella) titled, *Algebra I – Implementation of Common Core State Standards*, UCA offered two sets of workshops this summer. One was at the Nashville, AR School District from August 1-5, led by Dr. Jean McGehee and the other was on the UCA campus from July 25-29, led by Dr. Linda Griffith.

- Drs. Linda Griffith and Ramesh Garimella conducted workshops for Algebra II teachers in central Arkansas for an MSP grant project titled: *Algebra II – A Gateway to a Smart Future* (organized by Ms. Aimee Evans of the Arch Ford Educational Cooperative), from July 11-15 in the Department of Mathematics. The workshops focused on the new Common Core State Standards, and rigorous study of some advanced algebra and trigonometry concepts. This summer's special feature was a day-long workshop by Dr. Carl Lee of the University of Kentucky. He showed how Geogebra may be used to enhance high school



## Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – September 12, 2011

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A meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held Monday, September 12, 2011. All chairs were present.

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1. Minutes from 8-29-11 CoC were approved as amended.
2. Board Policy 338 (conferring degrees to students who attend professional school prior to graduating from UCA) was discussed and draft updates were suggested. Dean Runge will cover the proposed updates in his meeting with President Courtway September 13<sup>th</sup>.
3. Copies of the email from Tina Pilgreen, Research Compliance Coordinator in Sponsored Programs, concerning proposed changes to the IRB applications were distributed to the chairs. Changes to the Principal Investigator's Assurance Agreement were discussed and agreed upon. Suggested changes will be sent to Ms. Pilgreen.
4. Copies of Project Descriptions Worksheets: Guides for Researching Potential Grant makers, developed by Jennifer Boyett, Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations, were handed out to the council. Ms. Boyett has asked that the chairs complete a worksheet for each priority in their department so that she may be more informed about the funding needs of CNSM programs. The chairs should return the completed worksheets to the Dean's Office by September 28<sup>th</sup>.



## Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – September 26, 2011

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A meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held Monday, September 26, 2011. All chairs were present. Ms. Penny Hatfield and Ms. Leigh Ann DenHartog were guests.

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1. Ms. Penny Hatfield, Senior Associate Director of Admissions, addressed the council about Bear Facts Days and Bear Fairs. She distributed copies of promotional booklets that are used by the admissions office in recruitment. Ms. Hatfield also handed out an agenda for 2011 – 2012 Bear Facts Days. The new software for admissions was discussed and the floor was open to questions. The effectiveness of Bear Facts Days on Saturdays as opposed to Fridays was

\$75,000 needs to be identified and \$25,000 per year for operations will need to be budgeted. Privated donors have been approached for financial assistance.

2. Dean Runge reported on the lunch meeting he and Dr. Hu attended on September 20th with Mr. Josh Smith, chief operating officer for PrivacyStar.
3. Dean Runge reminded the council that Congressman Tim Griffin would be on campus tomorrow, Tuesday, September 27<sup>th</sup>. Dean Runge will make a presentation on the EPIC Residential College.
4. Dean Runge reminded the chairs to pay close attention to the information and requests for information that is coming out related to the HLC monitoring report that is being prepared. It is imperative that we do an exemplary job of including accurate data for this report.

- No report.
  
- No report.
  
- Dr. Hu reported that he and Drs. Runge, Paruchuri and Sheng attended the presentation by Ray Scott, Director of Arkansas Health Information Technology, at the Clinton School in Little Rock on Thursday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>.
  
- Dr. Garimella reported that Dr. Jean McGehee conducted a 1-day workshop on Friday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> for Algebra I teachers. The workshop was part of an ADHE grant project received by the UCA STEM Institute to implement the Common Core State Standards and was conducted on the UCA campus.
- On Friday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, Dr. Ramesh Garimella conducted a 1-day trigonometry workshop for 16 Algebra II teachers on the UCA campus. The workshop was part of a 3-year MSP grant obtained by the Arch Ford Educational Cooperative.
- The Math Department held a retreat from noon to 3:30 p.m. on Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup> to continue discussions on program assessments. It is a fourth retreat in as many months. Fifteen faculty members participated.
- A paper coauthored by Dr. Patrick Carmack and his collaborators in Texas titled

*Hippocampal Dysfunction in Gulf War Veterans: Investigation with ASL Perfusion MR Imaging and Physostigmine Challenge* appeared in the Journal of Radiology this month.

- Dr. Addison reported that the UTeach seed grant proposal has been funded. UCA's proposal is rated number one out of five submitted proposals. Drs. Addison, Tim Atkinson and Gary Bunn will attend a 2-day UTeach meeting at the Winthrop Rockefeller Institute on October 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>.

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6. Dr Addison addressed the council concerning the recent UTeach meeting that he attended on Mt. Petit Jean. UCA' s proposal will be submitted February 15, 2012. There are many details regarding licensure and NCATE requirements that need to be addressed at the State level, but the expectation is that the first UTeach students will start in Step I in Fall 2012. Dr. Addison needs a list of faculty that should have access to restricted data on the UTeach web site so that appropriate contributions to the proposal development can be made. The chairs should provide Dr. Addison with the list by October 21<sup>st</sup>. UTeach material was distributed to the chairs.

1. Dean Runge reminded the chairs that he and Dr. Frederickson will be attending the Tradelines 2011 Conference on Academic Science Facilities in Scottsdale, Arizona October 12<sup>n</sup> through the 15<sup>n</sup>.

2. Dean Runge reminded the chairs to help faculty with the development of assessment plans for new course proposals and curriculum changes. These assessment plans will evolve over time as we develop and implement our full program assessment plans for each of our degree programs.

- No report.

- Dr. Mauldin reported that the Department of Chemistry approved curricular proposals prompted by Act 747 on October 4, 2011, for the following programs:

1. BS in Chemistry, Standard Track, ACS-certified
2. BS in Chemistry, Biochemistry Track, ACS-certified
3. BS with major in Chemistry
4. BS in Environmental Science, Chemistry Track

- The Chemistry Club presented chemical demonstrations at the Majors Fair on Wednesday, October 5<sup>n</sup>.

- The Computer Science Department received a \$500 grant from the National Center for Women and IT to establish a female student organization.

- On behalf of ABET/CAC, Dr. Hu visited a university in Pennsylvania for its CS program accreditation.

- Dr. Garimella reported that the Math Department's short-term goal of equipping all classrooms with desktops, multimedia carts, document cameras, and all the latest mathematical software is now a reality.
- At its last meeting, the Undergraduate Council approved the Discrete Math II course proposal.
- A paper titled *Adaptive Buffering Scheme to Reduce Packet Loss on Densely Connected WSN with Mobile Sink*, coauthored by Dr. R.B. Lenin (with Z. Shakir and K. Yoshigoe of UALR) has been accepted for presentation at the 2012 IEEE's Consumer Communication and Networking Conference. More details about this conference can be found at <http://www.ieee-ccnc.org/>.
- Dr. Patrick Carmack's paper titled *Generalized Correlated Cross-Validation* was accepted, pending revision, in the *Journal of Nonparametric Statistics*.
  
- Dr. Addison reported that UCA hosted the mid-south chapter of the Acoustical Society of America October 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>.



## Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – October 17, 2011

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A meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held Monday, October 17, 2011. All chairs were present.

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1. Minutes from 10-17-11 CoC were approved as amended.
2. Dean Runge opened the discussion concerning the recent email from Provost Grahn regarding budget requests. The definition of white board funds (unexpended plant funds) was explained. Dean Runge reminded CoC members to keep EPIC, STEM and UTeach in mind while preparing their requests. A deadline of November 1st was set for delivering the requests to the Provost's Office, with requests due to the Dean's Office on October 31<sup>st</sup>.
3. Copies of the retention report prepared by Melissa Goff, Director of Institutional Research, were distributed and discussed. Retention data for individual programs will be forthcoming and at that time Ms. Goff will be invited to a CoC meeting to further discuss the data.
4. Dr. Addison gave a report on Bear Facts Day (Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup>).
5. Dean Runge and Dr. Frederickson attended the Tradelines Conference in Scottsdale, Arizona on October 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>. The focus of the trip was the design of academic science facilities. The trip was very productive, with information on flexible designs presented. Contacts with national consultants for our project were also established.

1. Dean Runge briefly discussed the proposed academic calendar.

- Dr. Cash reported that Dr. Sally Entrekin is having a paper titled, *Rapid Expansion of Natural Gas Development Poses a Threat to Surface Waters*, published in the *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment*.
- The Biology Department faculty, staff and students enjoyed their fall picnic Friday afternoon, October 14<sup>th</sup> at Lake Beaverfork.

- Dr. Mauldin reported that on Monday, October 17<sup>th</sup> in celebration of National Chemistry Week, the Chemistry Club gave away free cupcakes in a periodic table format, with each cupcake having an elemental symbol. To get a free cupcake, each person had to state the name of the element.
- Also in celebration of National Chemistry Week, the Chemistry Club hosted Dr. Kevin Raney from the UAMS Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Department for a seminar during X-period on Tuesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Dr. Mauldin distributed copies of the Chemistry Department's Smart Board assessment survey. All departments should use these same questions on their evaluation of the learning technology. Dr. Mauldin volunteered to collect and analyze the data for the report to the funding agency.

## Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – October 24, 2011

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A meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

gave a three-hour introduction to python with over thirty people attending. Mr. Michael Nooner and Ms. Karen Thessing provided their professional assistance to the conference.

- Dr. Garimella reported that Dr. Weijiu Liu authored a new textbook titled Introduction to Modeling Biological Cellular Control Systems. The book is being published by the Springer in its Modeling, Simulations and Applications Series and is scheduled for release on January 13, 2012. This book contains a description of the most commonly used ODE models in the study of biochemical processes and a chapter containing the classical models of ion pumps and channels. This is the second book published by Dr. Liu in the last three years.
- Dr. Danny Arrigo received an invitation from the Department of Mathematics at Tennessee Tech University to review their undergraduate programs next spring.
- This week, Dr. Linda Griffith is presenting a paper at the NCTM Regional Conference in St. Louis and Dr. Donna Foss is presenting a paper at the Rock Mountain Education Research Association meeting in Greenburg, Texas.
  
- Dr. Addison reported that he, Dr. Rahul Mehta and Dr. Azida Walker attended the Arkansas INBRE Conference accompanied by students, John Lahmann, Nick Martinez, Nirav Patel and Kristopher Watson. The students each presented posters. The poster presented by Mr. Patel and Mr. Watson was the first place winner in the physics poster competition.
- Dr. William Slaton visited the Johnson Space Flight Center in Houston, Texas over Fall Break. Dr. Slaton returned with equipment on loan to enhance research. The borrowed equipment includes impedance tubes, microphones and a spectrum analyzer.

## Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – October 31, 2011

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A meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held Monday, October 31, 2011. All chairs were present.

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1. Minutes of the 10-24-11 CoC were approved as amended.
  2. Budget requests were discussed. The new form for budget requests was introduced to the council. This new form and the associated budgeting process represent the initiation of a strategic budgeting process at UCA, with projected needs being listed for the next five years. Dean Runge asked Dr. Frederickson to consolidate all requests from the chairs so that they can be ranked prior to submitting to the Provost Office on November 1<sup>st</sup>. This procedure will be repeated during the spring 2012 semester for the following fiscal year.
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1. Dean Runge reported on his meeting with Ronnie Williams and others associated with the planning for Greek Village. The Nature Reserve is on the University Master Plan and Greek Village will not violate the boundaries of the Reserve.
  2. The October 29<sup>th</sup> Bear Facts Day was discussed. It was noted that in the "Area of Interest" on the online registration form several CNSM degree programs and tracks were omitted. We will request that Admissions make the appropriate corrections.
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- Dr. Cash reported that the Biology Department would host an EPSCoR Center for Plant-Powdered Production (P3) meeting Thursday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>.
  - Representatives from the Biology Department will have the opportunity to learn more about the potential for sharing the ASU Field Station at the Buffalo River on Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup>.
  - No report.
  - Dr. Hu reported that the Computer Science Department is in the process of

selecting a female student as recipient of the Arkansas Academy of Computing Scholarship.

- Dr. Hu participated in the ribbon cutting ceremony of LISA Academy new high school building. He reported on their building project and on the the STEM-centered curriculum at this school. We will add the LISA Academy to our list of schools for targeted recruiting by CNSM.
  
- No report.
  
- No report.

## Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – November 14, 2011

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A meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held Monday, November 14, 2011. All chairs were present.

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1. Minutes from the 10-31-11 CoC were approved as amended.
2. Dean Runge opened a discussion regarding the relationship between tenure and promotion to associate professor. Dean Runge met with CNSM Senators, Drs. Charles Watson, George Bratton, Ben Rowley and CNSM representative on the Faculty Handbook Committee, Dr. K.C. Larson, last week to discuss the problems and challenges when tenure and promotion are decoupled as they currently are at UCA. Dr. George Bratto

LSC 100. Lunch will be provided. The chairs were urged to get the word out to their departments.

2. The Bear Facts Days held on Saturdays have been very effective. Students seemed to be more engaged than they have been on past Friday events and the opportunity to speak with their parents has been very productive.

- Dr. Cash reported that Drs. Reid and Ginny Adams, along with several Biology students, recently attended the Southeastern Fisheries Society Meeting in Chattanooga, Tennessee. UCA biology student, Loren Stearman won the \$150 first place award for student presentations, beating out two post-doctoral students. Dr. Ginny Adams was elected as chair-elect of the council. She will serve a two-year term as chair-elect and a two-year term as chair of the society.
- Dr. Mauldin reported that Dr. Karen Steelman has been invited to a Rock Art Methods mini-conference in late November. The meeting is co-sponsored by the US National Foundation (NSF) and the French Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS). Organized by Dr. Meg Conkey (University of California at Berkeley), this meeting is an opportunity for American and French researchers to interact and learn from each other. Only six researchers from each country were invited. The conference will be held near Comstock, Texas on the Shumla School campus, a nonprofit archaeological research and education center. The Lower Pecos River region of southwest Texas has some of the most spectacular rock art sites in the world. The conference will include presentations, discussions, and visits to local rock art sites. A reciprocal conference in the French Midi-Pyrenees at the Parc de la Prehistoire is planned for the future.
- No report.
- UCA mathematics faculty members, Drs. Linda Griffin and Jean McGehee conducted professional development workshops for eighteen Algebra I teachers from central Arkansas on November 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> on the UCA campus. The workshops are part of a series being conducted this year by Drs. Griffin and McGehee to help implement the Common State Standards. The workshop was a



- Dr. Xinping Li, a visiting Assistant Professor of Mathematics, presented a paper titled *An Anisotropic Mesh Adaptation Method for the Finite Element Solution of Heterogeneous Anisotropic Diffusion Problems* at the Fall 2011 Finite Element Circus at the University of Connecticut, Avery Point campus on October 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Dr. R.B. Lenin, Assistant Professor of Mathematics, presented a paper titled *Modeling and Simulation of Patient Flows in the Department of OB/GYN at UAMS* at the 2011 Predictive Analytics with Simulation Conference held in Orlando, Florida from October 30 – November 3, 2011. This project is part of an effort at UAMS to improve efficiency and patient flow in the outpatient clinics. The paper was coauthored with Dr. Hari Easwaran of UAMS.
- Dr. Addison reported that on November 6<sup>th</sup> members of the Student Physics Society (SPS) and American Chemistry Society (ACS) took a guided hike lead by Dr. Debra Burris at Petit Jean State Park. Dr. Burris and the students hiked the 7 Hollows Trail, which is 4.5 mile loop. Features along the trail included the natural rock arch, which the students spent a good deal of time exploring sandstone “turtle rocks” and rock shelters that had evidence of Native American habitation. A spring hike is planned.

## Minutes of Chairs Council Meeting – December 5, 2011

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A meeting of the Chairs' Council of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was held Monday, December 5, 2011. All chairs were present except for Dr. Garimella. Dr. Frederickson was not in attendance. Dr. Clarence Burg represented the Math Department

3. The chairs were reminded that Program Educational Objectives for each degree program should be ready for presentation and discussion in early January.

- Dr. Cash reported that Dr. David Dussourd gave an invited talk, titled *For Love of Insect and Plants: Serendipitous Discoveries from Nature*, at the Entomological Society of America Meeting in Reno, Nevada, November 12 – 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Dr. Mauldin reported that on November 29<sup>th</sup>, the Department of Chemistry approved revised program educational outcomes and associated student learner outcomes for the BS degree in Chemistry.
- Dr. Hu reported that on December 1<sup>st</sup> the Computer Science Department hosted an invited seminar titled, *Energy Attack on Server Systems*, delivered by Dr. Mengjin Xie, a Computer Science faculty member at UALR.
- The Computer Science faculty will hold their annual assessment workshop on Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Computer Science faculty members, Bernard Chen, Sinan Kockara, Vamsi Paruchuri, Yu Sun and Paul Young participated in the NSF workshop on grant writing at UALR on December 5<sup>th</sup>.
- No report.
- Dr. Addison reported that Drs. Mehta and Mason attended the NSF Workshop at UALR today.
- Drs. Mehta, Azida Walker and Physics major, Kristopher Watson attended the BioNanoTox Conference on November 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Walker chaired a technical session at the meeting and is refereeing papers for publication in the conference proceedings.



January 15, 2012.

- Dr. Garimella reported that he, Dr. Linda Griffith and Dr. Jean McGehee conducted a 2-day workshop for 18 Algebra II teachers on December 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. This final set of workshops was part of a 3-year MSP grant project titled: Algebra II – A Gateway to a Smart Future. Ms. Aimee Evans of the Arch Ford Educational Cooperative is PI of this ADHE grant.
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- No report.
- Dr. Hu reported on the successful Computer Science Advisory Board meeting that took place Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup>. Dean Runge was in attendance.
- No report.
- No report.