

Minutes

of the Physics Department meeting
held Wednesday November 14, 2012 in UH168.

Present: Benjamin, Boukahil, Doering, Nawash, Rybski, Sahyun

Absent: Constantinescu (ill)

- I. Meeting called to order at 5:45 pm.
- II. Rybski/Boukahil moved to approve the November 7, 2012 minutes. Minutes passed with edit.
- III. Announcements
 - a. Chair's Announcements.
- IV. Old Business
 - a. Nanophysics position search status update. There are 8 applicants at this time. Benjamin/Rybski moved a round of early evaluation and phone interviews before the deadline in order to let early applicants know of our interest in them. Motion tabled until next week.
 - b. Review of Promotions and Tenure document revisions. There are three issues for departmental discussion:
 - i. Number of peer evaluations in rank.
 - ii. Number of required reviews must come from members of the physics department.
 - iii. The numerical value for student evaluations.
 - iv. Numbers of publications required in the sub-fields in the department.All items were resolved. Rybski/Boukahil moved to accept the November 14, 2012 revisions to the Promotions and Tenure documents for Assistant to Associate and for Associate to Professor. Motion passed.
 - a. Other Old Business
- V. New Business
 - a. Physics 180/181 textbook prices and student purchases. Next semester there is the possibility of a price increase in the textbooks used for the Physics 180/181 courses and this will price them past the \$23/credit limit. Options are being considered. There is a request for the department chair to contact the Dean's office about increasing the book credit limit.

- b. Issues in the course rotation schedule. Fall 2013 schedule planning. There is a problem in our course rotation schedule with 325 E&M, 360 Optics, and 364 Thermodynamics all offered only Fall of even years. There is a proposal to move 364 to the Spring semester (Spring 2014, 2015 and thereafter for odd years) to reduce course pressure on the Fall of even years.
- c. Discussion of the Compsci requirement for Physics majors was tabled until the next meeting.
- d. Announcements
 - i. On Friday November 9, Dr. Rex Hanger presented the Observatory lecture "The Age of the Earth and How Do We Know It?" UH140 was filled to capacity (105 seats), and people were sitting in the aisles. It was recorded and will be available, both as a video and as a PPT.
 - ii. The next Observatory lecture will be a Friday November 16 with the title of "The Ages of the Sun and Stars and How Do We Know It?" to be given by Dr. Paul Rybski.
 - iii. It was noticed that there is an error in the Spring Schedule of Classes and the Course Catalog. Physics 330 should NOT list Math 361 as a pre-requirement for the course.

VI. Rybski/Benjamin moved to adjourn at 7:19 pm. Motion Passed.

Respectfully Submitted,
Steven Sahyun
Secretary of the day
cc: Dean Pinkerton