***Minutes***

Science Department Meeting

Dan McDevit, Department Coordinator

February 14, 2014 1 p.m. - 2:30pm

SCOPE Conference

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Present | Absent | Excused |
| **Faculty** |  |  |  |
| Batcher, Doris | X |  |  |
| Black, Cheryl | X |  |  |
| Coman, Marius | X |  |  |
| Cutler, Rob | X |  |  |
| Donaldson, Kurt |  | X |  |
| Furler, Robert | X |  |  |
| Hepner, Roy | X |  |  |
| Hermann, Henry |  |  | X |
| Hooks, Ed | X |  |  |
| Huang, Li | X |  |  |
| Israsena Na Ayudhya, Thep | X |  |  |
| Jester, Roz | X |  |  |
| Koepke, Jay | X |  |  |
| Liu, Qin | X |  |  |
| Manacheril, George | X |  |  |
| McDevit, Dan | X |  |  |
| McGarity, Lisa | X |  |  |
| McKenzie, Jonathan | X |  |  |
| O’Neal, Lyman | X |  |  |
| Ottman, Tina | X |  |  |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Present | Absent | Excused |
| Prabhu, Nimi | X |  |  |
| Romeo, Peggy | X |  |  |
| Trevino, Marcela | X |  |  |
| Ulrich, Melanie | X |  |  |
| Vala, Teju | X |  |  |
| Verga, Vera |  |  | X |
| Wilcox, Bill | X |  |  |
| Witty, Mike |  |  |  |
| Wolfson, Jed |  |  | X |
| Xue, Di | X |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Adjunct Faculty** |  |  |  |
| Mantell, Ann | X |  |  |
| Shaw, Mary | X |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Staff** |  |  |  |
| Otto, Kirk |  |  |  |
| Tyus, Jessica |  |  |  |
| Clemence, Bob |  |  |  |
| **Guests** |  |  |  |
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|  |  |  |  |

1. Welcome
2. Housekeeping
   1. Approval of January 2014 Minutes
   2. Textbook Adoption Changes – To chair before Feb 22nd
   3. Lab Safety/Waste Committee ‘Volunteers’–
      1. Charlotte: Bill and Albaro
      2. Lee: Li, Thep, Qin, Melanie, Mike, Jessica, and Bob
      3. Collier: Kirk
         * Lisa and Marius also volunteered to join the committee
3. Gen Ed Changes
   1. Changes to the GenEd core will be implemented for the 2015-2016 school year, the discussion at this meeting was what we would like to do to prepare for the changes. Students entering college in Florida starting in the Fall of 2015 will be required to take one course from each of five disciplines from the core course list. Currently, we only offer 5 of the courses on the list. The question was put to the faculty: Do we want to offer any of these courses on the list that we currently do not offer?
   2. George M. noted that ESC X000 Introduction to Earth Science and PHY X020 Fundamentals of Physics are similar to current ISC courses. He would like to offer them but is concerned about what the requirements are to qualify to teach an ESC course. This is something that will need to be discussed with the Dean.
   3. Roz expressed interest in the Earth Science course and Cheryl expressed interest in the Environmental Science course. However, again there was the question of qualifications to teach these new courses.
      1. Roz mentioned the potential need to limit currently taught courses if these new courses are offered.
   4. Tina brought up the idea of a science cornerstone course or a linked Environmental Gen Ed course with the Cornerstone course, such that students would be enrolled in both courses with the same instructor for both.
4. Timeline for Credit Transfers
   1. Given that there have been several instances of students transferring courses from 20 or 30 years ago when entering programs at Edison, the question was brought up to the department of limits to transferred credits.
   2. Although there were a few faculty who advocated for no time limit for transferring courses, the overwhelming opinion of the faculty was to set a time limit of 10 years for transferring courses.
   3. There was discussion on testing and the difficulties of monitoring a test. Most agreed that a test could be used in special cases on appeal.
5. Any new items
   1. Summer Faculty course load was briefly discussed.
   2. Lisa mentioned that she would like to discuss chemistry lab assignments at a future meeting.