

School of Natural Sciences
Meeting Minutes - Tuesday October 9, 2007
Start Time: 4:11 pm

In Attendance:

Biology Department

Dr. Anna Hull Assist. Prof.

Dr. Dianne York

Chemistry Department

Dr. Derrick Swinton Assistant Prof

Dr. Amar Tung Assistant Prof

Physics Department

Dr. Mazharul Huq (Chair) Prof

Dr. Helen Major Assistant Prof

On Sabbatical

Dr. Susan Safford Associate Prof

Mathematics

Mr. Ali Barimani Assistant Prof

Dr. Moses Haimbodi Assistant Prof

Mr. Reginald Myrick Instructor

Dr. Tim Niiler Lecturer

Dr. Ranjan Naik Instructor

Dr. Goro Nagase Professor

Mr. Fidelis Omuyeh Lecturer

Excused Absences

Dr. Langley

Dr. Bhat

Dr. Baskerville

Dr. Royer

1) Welcome

2) Approval of Minutes

Approved unanimously

3) Henderson's Memorial - October 11, 2007

CHIKWEM: Encourage science students to be at memorial. Dr. Henderson was an icon in his time. It is important for everyone to be there to give family a positive impression. Program is in print as we speak. The scholarship fund needs \$5,000 for the investment to succeed. If all 100 faculty at Lincoln contributed, we would easily make the goal. Dr. Shabazz made a very significant contribution to this fund. Be at the memorial by 1:30 pm.

4) Science Fair - October 13, 2007

CHIKWEM: Despite 6 weeks notice, we still have students submitting abstracts at the last minute. Because the plotter is broken, all posters must be taken to Kinkos and be printed there. If a student has not printed their poster yet, it should be emailed to Dr. Swinton or me (Dr. Chikwem) by Thursday afternoon so that they can take them to Kinkos. The poster session will be displayed in two classrooms and the main session will be in the Dickey Hall auditorium. Members of the Science Fair committee should stay after the meeting today so that we can talk about grouping posters into categories. We have only one external judge - from Penn State. There is also the lunch. Encourage all your students to come. We were expecting some high school students from Philadelphia (40-50), but we have heard nothing.

The judges include:

Dr. Hamboidi
Dr. Naik
Dr. Bonneau (from Penn State)
Prof. Myrick
Dr. Huq
Dr. Hull
Dr. Tung

SWINTON: Some students are not participating because they feel they know who will win already.

CHIKWEM: In the past, we have had judges from Penn State do most of the judging. Also, show them the rubrics for judging.

We have good prizes this year including medallions, \$250 for best poster, and plaques.

MAJOR: I think what happened this year is that the letter did not come around this year, the letter soliciting door prizes from faculty.

CHIKWEM: I'll send another letter around tomorrow morning.

5) School Journal

CHIKWEM: Dr. Royer should be talking about this. We have received the ISSN. The journal will go to print at the end of this month. So before the end of the semester, we'll have Issue 1. Then we need to start planning for Issue 2 in the spring.

If I'm not mistaken, he told me that there are six accepted articles. If we receive articles in the next week, and it's reviewed and accepted, it will still make it in. Just make sure you follow the format.

BARIMANI: I heard that it needs to be a two column format like the Social Sciences journal.

CHIKWEM: Formatting is not a problem so long as the general standards are followed.

HAMBOLDI: Has the editorial board met?

CHIKWEM: No, not yet. They need to look at the articles to decide if there is a reason not to publish something.

6) Building Committee Report and Resolution (Barimani)

BARIMANI: Dr. Nelson says construction will begin Nov 1, 2007, and be completed 382 days later. If they finish construction Nov 19, 2008, we will probably be moving in during Fall 09, not Spring 09. If we come up with a list of needs, pass it on to Dr. Chikwem. There is still \$3 million available.

Also, I proposed last time that we name the building after Dr. Nelson. I motion that we have a resolution on this.

TUNG: I suggest that we look at the contributions of Dr. Henderson before we vote.

CHIKWEM: Since there is a motion and we have a quorum, we must consider it.

General discussion on lists:

HUQ: Laboratory facilities are most important.

HAMBOIDI: What is the protocol?

BARIMANI: List your needs and put it through your department chair. So for example, if you need smart boards, you can ask for them.

HULL: So if we need blinds we need to ask for them?

BARIMANI: (Reads from email) - I think that the needs are specific to scientific equipment.

CHIKWEM: I think the office needs are already budgeted for. This is laboratory equipment.

SWINTON: Should the department chairs meet on this?

CHICKWEM: Determine as a department what it is you need to do, then list the equipment.

HAMBOIDI: Has laboratory space been allocated?

BARIMANI: The space has been allocated and has already been decided and cannot be changed at this point.

HAMBOIDI: So the math dept. has space?

CHIKWEM: You have the two computer labs. And more office space than any other department. Before we do the resolution, some bookstore business.

Bookstore Rep: Any questions, problems?

NIILER: We have a problem with getting enough books for the students. You seem to be incrementally ordering books and students can't get them.

Bookstore Rep: We order books based on previous semester sales.

NIILER: We have a problem with getting enough books as the books seem to be ordered incrementally. Then students get behind, they get frustrated, and they drop the class.

Bookstore Rep: Which book are you having problems with?

NIILER: Kapoor's algebra.

Bookstore Rep: I remember this case specifically, and I know that this semester we were on top of it and I am now sitting on 15 books.

SWINTON: You've got to realize that you shouldn't always believe the students. Sometimes they are just looking to avoid buying the book.

Bookstore Rep: We research book prices all over and we are in-line with other vendors. In addition, we are sure to include CDs and other extras that Amazon may not.

MYRICK: What would be the financial consequences if you temporarily ignored the history and just ordered what the registrar indicated?

Bookstore Rep: If we did that we have inventory left over at the end of the month. In addition, then we can't provide financial aid to students or provide various awards.

Email me if you have any problems or questions: bookstore@lincoln.edu

CHIKWEM: Let's go back to the resolution.

BARIMANI: I propose that we name the new science building after Dr. Ivory Nelson.

HUQ: Wait, other people may have another suggestion. This seems to be moving very fast.

CHIKWEM: Is there a motion to table?

HULL: I have a motion to table the resolution until the next meeting.

Motion is tabled by majority.

CHIKWEM: Does anyone know what Branson did? There is only the Branson computer lab named after him. Grim Hall was named after a dean. What we have here is largely due to Barnes. (Ever heard of the Barnes Foundation?) [The point being that buildings here seem to be named after people who have directly benefited Lincoln U]. Since the vote is being delayed, it will be taken up next month. If only three people are here next month, we will vote.

CHIKWEM: Starting now, any unexcused absence will go into the official file.

SWINTON: We should also put the auditoriums, etc... in the new building on the table for naming. That way we can give credit to multiple people.

CHIKWEM: It is also possible that the Board has already decided to name the building. Because the President raises money, naming the building after the President means that we can probably get more money. I would not be in favor of naming the building on sentimental grounds.

BARIMANI: It's easy to criticize, but it's hard to stand up for when someone has done something good.

CHIKWEM: We chose the core curriculum and we had debates about including curriculum for

sentimental reasons. In most schools there are 120 credits to graduation. At Lincoln, we are starting with courses like MAT103,104,105 before they even really start the 120 credits. When you add these and all the other things, you have nearly a year's worth of work. Our recommendation is that there be not more than one year of core curriculum.

SWINTON: I was advising some of our Juniors. I noticed that our LEAP students have benefited from the change in core.

7) Any other business

SWINTON: NEAGEP handout is available. None of our students are registered as of yet. If you can help get some of our students together for this trip, it would be very helpful. Many of our students participate at internships in north-eastern schools. Also, the NEA day application is available. [these handouts are available from Swinton]

One more thing: I'd like to form a "safety" committee (unintelligible). There are needs to be addressed in several departments. This would allow us to monitor what's going on since science can be very serious.

HULL: If any science agency saw what was going on, they'd shut us down.

CHIKWEM: The last time general lab money came through it was not properly used. The safety issues are now in the departments. The lab managers were to only set up labs, but that's not how it turned out.

TUNG: If I have to work at night at Lincoln, it's not a safe place.

CHIKWEM: Don't worry, when we get into the new buildings, this will be addressed. The new building put the classrooms downstairs and the labs upstairs. Currently there is no space for the students, so they are all over the place. As of this time, Wright Hall and Grim Hall are the most dysfunctional buildings. To make matters worse, there is no-one who is in charge of anything in the labs. In the old days, you had to sign for the equipment. *That was why we recommended that there should be no more than one year's work in the core.*

Meeting adjourned at 5:34 pm.