SCIENCE AND MATH DIVISION MEETING MINUTES February 6, 2007

PRESENT: Max Simmons Dennis Anderson Marsha Austin Kristy Bailey Brenda Breeding Lisa Buckelew Tamara Carter Roger Choate Sharon Coffman Betty Coleman Courtney Dodd Ernest Gobert Ken Harrelson B.J. Higgins

GUESTS: Ed Williams Julian Hilliard Carl Hirtzel Greg Holland Virginia Hovda Fabiola Janiak-Spens Steve Kamm Steve Kash Linda Knox Jay Malmstrom Jim McKenna John McMurray Cassandra Meek Janet Mitchell Charlotte Mulvihill Charles Nunley Chris Oehrlein Dave Palkovich Raul Ramirez Sherry Ray Steve Shore Tony Stancampiano Tad Thurston Richard Trout Mike Turegun David Wiggins Changjiang Zhe Cheryl Wolfe(mins)

INFORMATION ITEMS

New grade and attendance sheets have been distributed. The blue sheets are complete gone. The new sheets are not good. The division office will be flexible as to what we accept at the end of the semester.

Performance appraisals are on-going through February. Faculty, please sign up.

TODD CENTER UPDATE

The schedule is in the division office. A report to see which rooms are double booked will be run for Department Chairs to look at for reassignment of rooms.

Timeline for moving is now March. The holdup is the fire supression system, electric and data cables. There are thermostats in one out of every four offices, but that does not control the temperature. It still goes through Physical Plant.

LEARNING COMMUNITIES

Meetings were held last week regarding the format of the learning communities. Three classes will be grouped together such as Math, English and History. They would possibly be on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9:00, 10:00 and 11:00 all in the same room. Faculty of the these classes would meet monthly to informally talk about students and any problems which may arise.

Discussion and concerns were raised. Similar things have been tried and some worked and some didn't. Should remedial classes be put together with the learning community classes? Possibly only math. Will there be recruitment? Extra money for teachers? Peer tutors? This may be more successful for borderline students, but it will be difficult to arrange their schedules. Professor Hirtzel reported that something like this was tried at Rose State College and it didn't work well. There was no leadership among the students.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PAC will meet on Friday - any concerns should be addressed to Steve Kash.

The IT Advisory Committee will be meeting. WebCT will be going away and replaced with Blackboard or "Desire to Learn". Concerns were voiced about who decides what will be used. Groupwise and Novell will also be going away and be replaced with Outlook Exchange next fiscal year. A new "Acceptable Use Policy" regarding the way digital mail is used. It will be no longer acceptable to forward email from one server to another. Max will follow up on this.

OACC: March 1 & 2. If faculty are presenting, Max needs to know by tomorrow.

The Entry Level Assessment Committee have met with a plan to get rid of the compass and replace it with CPT.

OTHER

A question was raised about contract days for faculty. Christmas break is getting longer because of Intersession and fast-track classes so faculty are working longer in May. Faculty were never asked about this and something should be done to compensate the them. This should be brought up at the Faculty Association meetings.

NISOD winners: Steve Kamm and Tamara Carter

Volunteers to serve on program review committees for other divisions are needed: Pre-Ed., History, Political Science, Psychology. Email Max if you are interested.

Meeting adjourned.