

Astronomy Department Meeting

Meeting was held on April 9, 2009 from 1:00-1:50 pm in the Planetarium.

Attendees: Vincent Lloyd, David Vakil, Perry Hacking

Minutes were taken by Dave Vakil

Projector/ Facilities

- The light bulb in the projector has been changed and it appears to be working fine. The projector was also adjusted so it doesn't project onto the speaker.
- The plumbers have been notified again about the water smell. No word from them yet.
- Jean will have a work order placed to fix the ceiling tile that fell in the northwest lobby near the restrooms.
- Jon Franz is coming to work on the cove lighting to try to make it brighter. He cannot make it over spring break. Jean suggested the week before summer. He hasn't returned that email yet.
- There is a work order in for the computer and the noise it is making. It may take a while for ITS to get over to fix it, since they are understaffed.

SLO's

The department has slo's written for Astronomy 20 and 25. Dave and Vincent recall that it was assessed, but there is no record in the division office. Vincent and Jean will check their files again. Astronomy 12 and 13 need slo statements and rubrics to be developed this semester and we also need a program level slo. Vincent will work on the program level slo, Dave has Astronomy 13 and Perry will work on Astronomy 13. These are needed by the end of the semester.

Curriculum

A training session for Curriculum is being planned. Courses that have not been reviewed within the past six or more years need to be reviewed no later than the end of the semester. Astronomy is current for now. All classes have been reviewed in the past 6 years.

Foundation Proposal

Perry and Dave submitted a proposal to Katie Gleason for computers to make the LCD video screens more versatile. Katie has a donor that wants to support Astronomy and/or Geography. Perry and Dave also suggest a dehumidifier for the planetarium, since at the last projector maintenance, the connections are showing signs of corrosion. Dave has contacted Bruce Hoerning, but Bruce needs to know the recommended humidity for the projector. Jean thinks she has the manuals in her office and will look.

Fall 2009 Schedule

The Fall 2009 schedule has 2 classes unstaffed, Astronomy 20 and 25 on Monday and Wednesday evening. Jean suggested we advertise over the summer. Dave and Vincent will be teaching and agreed this is the best course of action.

Other

- Vincent will be teaching a Community Ed class on July 1. The topic will be how to read a star map and a planetarium show.
- Everyone was brought up to date on Onizuka Space Science Day.
- The Night of Astronomy on April 4 in the Marsee parking lot was successful according to the South Bay Astronomical Society.