

Astronomy Department Meeting

Meeting was held on Thursday, April 8 from 1:00-1:50 pm in the Planetarium.

Attendees: Vincent Lloyd, Perry Hacking, Jean Shankweiler, Dave Vakil

Minutes were taken by J. Shankweiler

Program Review

The first draft of the Astronomy Program Review was presented and discussed. One discussion centered around why the success rates in Astronomy 25 are lower than the rates in Astronomy 20. Dave put recommendations into the program review about lowering Astronomy 25 class size or decreasing the number of Astronomy 25 sections offered and increasing the Astronomy 20 sections. Another area for discussion was the planetarium manager recommendation. This is still the first priority recommendation. Other recommendations and priorities were also discussed.

Academic Achievement Awards

Jean asked Vincent Lloyd if he could be the department representative for the Academic Achievement awards. He agreed.

Other –Discussion

- Vincent asked about grades of "D". Do they transfer, why are they used, etc? If a student is not considered successful with a "D" when considering success rates, and a "D" seldom transfers, then why do we have them. An interesting discussion with no conclusion followed.

Other - Facilities

- The temperature in the planetarium is fluctuating wildly from day to day. One day it is extremely hot, the next very cold.

3/11/10 jms