

Earth Science & Geography Department Meeting Notes

El Camino College

2013 August 22, 11 am to noon, NATS 206

Present: Jean Shankweiler, Changwoo Cha, Matt Ebiner, Sara Di Fiori, Julienne Gard, Chuck Herzig, Joe Holliday, Jim Noyes, Robin Bouse, Patti Neumann, Rebecca Donegan, Kris Jones

COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES & LEADERS

Faculty identified department representatives for several committees:

Program Review: Julienne Gard

Division SLO: Jim Noyes

Division Council: Julienne Gard

Division Planning: Chuck Herzig

Division Curriculum: Matt Ebiner

SLOs

Faculty identified leaders for courses to be assessed in the fall 2013 and spring 2014 semesters.

Next year, the department will assess the “nature of science” SLO in all courses (except for field classes). In the fall 2013, the department will plan for the assessment of the SLO. A variety of issues need to be discussed, particularly the issue of reading comprehension, and assessments may need to be developed for some courses.

Exception: Geology 6 will not be offered until spring 2015. It will be assessed at that time.

COURSE REVIEW

Faculty identified faculty leaders for course review:

Geography 6: Matt Ebiner

Geography 7: Julienne Gard

Geography 20: Matt Ebiner

Geology 1: Joe Holliday

Geology 2: Sara Di Fiori

Geology 3: Chuck Herzig

Geology 4: Sara Di Fiori

Geology 6: Chuck Herzig

Geology 15: Sara Di Fiori

An important aspect of course review will be aligning the courses with the C-ID designations so that our students can transfer to 4-year institutions more easily.

PROGRAM REVIEW

Julienne Gard has incorporated the first round of comments into the draft program review document. Faculty should review the document and offer further feedback and suggestions by 8/29 so that there will be enough time to incorporate them before the draft document is due.

SPRING SCHEDULE

Faculty reviewed the spring 2014 schedule.

Because part-time faculty may teach at several colleges, they need to be reminded that ECC will no longer have a winter session. Therefore, if they teach during the winter session at another institution, they may not be able to teach courses at ECC during the spring semester.

SUMMER SEMESETER

The next summer session will have two 6-week sessions and one 8-week session that overlaps both 6-week sessions. Faculty should begin considering the best way to allocate the department's courses among the sessions.

DEPARTMENT MEETINGS

The first department meeting will be Thursday, 9/19. The dates of other meetings will be determined once committee meeting dates have been determined.

NEW OCEANOGRAPHY TEXTBOOK

This semester (fall 2013) we will be using the new edition of the oceanography textbook (Essentials of Oceanography). Joe Holliday brought two copies of the textbook to the library. The librarians requested one copy for each professor who is teaching the course, so Joe Holliday will attempt to get 4 more copies.

LAB MANUALS

The oceanography and geology 3 lab manuals were revised. The revisions were minor.

TUTORS

There is a geography tutor and a geology tutor. The geology tutor can also tutor oceanography. The tutors will bring flyers and post them outside the classrooms.

SCIENCE CLUB

A faculty member must be present during all meetings. The club will need some faculty to volunteer to sit in sometimes during the semester. Also, the club may need more advice and help because there are new leaders.

METEOROLOGY TALK

A senior meteorologist from the national weather service will give a talk on 11/7.

Minutes submitted by Jim Noyes