

HMSC Academic Programs Committee: May 16, 2007 Meeting Minutes

Present: George Boehlert, Itchung Cheung, Sally Hacker, Michael Harte, Susie Leslie, Patrick O'Connor, Kathleen O'Malley, David Sampson, Michael Schirripa, Janet Webster

Absent: Shawn Rowe

Topics of Discussion in HMSC Educational Activities

REU Program: Boehlert

The third year of the REU program was completed with a total of some 30 interns supported. Objectives of creating opportunities for under-represented students and for those from small, non-research colleges was largely met. NSF has approved a 3-yr renewal with 13 interns per year. It will be an expanded program, joint between Hatfield Marine Science Center and the College of Oceanic and Atmospheric Sciences. Additional funding from NOAA and other NSF sources will result in 10 REU interns at HMSC and 10 in COAS. Itchung will be coordinating at HMSC and Kaplan Yalcin will coordinate in Corvallis.

Summer Program: Cheung

2006 recap: Previous course offerings were Marine /Estuarine Invertebrates (Z461/561, Trowbridge); Marine Mammals (FW/BI302, Sumich); Free Choice Learning (SED 499/599, Rowe), Biological Invasions (FW/BI 421/521, Chapman). Workshops: Integral Ecology (FW/PH 499/599, Tissot); Native American Use of Marine and Estuarine Resources (Anth 407, Hall); Writing about the Sea and Shore (Mack).

2007 program: Current offerings are: Intro to Marine Biology (BI/FW 299, Newell); Biology and Conservation of Marine Mammals (BI/FW 302, Sumich); Scientific Methods in Conservation Biology (FW499, Heppell); Overview of Free Choice Learning (SED 431/531, Rowe); Writing with the Tides (WR 406/506, Barrington); Marine Conservation Science and Policy (Z565, Lubchenco). All courses will be available as a workshop and/or Professional credit. Summer Session is producing a flyer to highlight 4 courses that need increased enrollment. Suggest advertising summer courses on COS listserv and inform head advisors.

Marine Biology 2007: Hacker

Current program has 20 students in residence at HMSC. Student feedback on the course is that it is a life changing experience. Biology students need the course as one path to graduate with the Marine Biology option and generally make plans as early as their first year at OSU to schedule it in their academic program. Current size is limited only by van space in 2-12 passenger vans and the size of the lab, although there have been discussions of modifying lab space to increase class size. The course also has experienced issues related to annual review for funding support; in the last three years, a decision on funding has been relatively late, but the off-campus course funding model (see below) has been used on a one-time basis each year. This is problematic in that the program feels it can't advertise the course without knowing if the course will be offered and hence is generally not advertised at all. Instituting the current funding model for the course where funds would be derived to support the course expenses. S. Hacker currently teaches 5 of the 10 weeks and the remaining is covered by Bruce Menge, Jane Lubchenco,

Annette Olson, Kimberly Heiman, and Scott Heppell (FW). The course is an amazing experiential field course.

Fall F&W 2006: Sampson

Fall quarter begins with the Coastal Ecology and Resource Management (CERM) program which consists of a 1-week intensive including field trips for F&W students. This intensive program impacts all the Fall Quarter F&W courses because they need to start a week later into the quarter. The course has also been offered in the past as a two week intensive with mixed feelings from faculty and students. OSU Faculty are experiencing difficulties due to late course coordination within the F&W department. The Committee suggests that means be found to improve coordination for the F&W Fall quarter before February.

Educational Planning and Strategy

Increasing awareness of HMSC educational programs: Cheung

Working with Sea Grant, OSU Admissions and Student Orientation and Retention Programs (SOAR) to increase HMSC presence and awareness to students and the university through linkages with OSU outreach programs, A Taste of College (ATOC), Academic Learning Services Odyssey, Tour Guide and Outreach training with Admissions, CONNECT and a future OSU/Marine Science Outreach Display. Committee suggestion to participate in OSU-Ag Days.

Mini-course program plans:

Developing 1-credit exploratory marine science courses with an emphasis in experiential education open to lower division undergraduate students of all majors. Objectives are increased exposure of HMSC and keeping lower division biology students connected to marine topics. See Course Summary Handout.

NSF - URM concept for OSU:

Working with Kurt Peters (Native American Collaborative Institute) and Allison Davis White-Eyes (Indian Education Office, MEO) to explore developing a NSF Undergraduate Research and Mentoring in the Biological Sciences Program (URM).

Field course funding model: Boehlert

Status of the proposal for new funding model was described (now used for the current Spring Term Marine Biology course) for other courses offered at off-campus locations during the academic year. See handout of appendix 6 of HMSC Strategic Plan.

MRM update: Harte

Program has ~30 students total with 10-15 new students a year. The program would like to see 5-6 students resident at HMSC each year with the idea of formalizing a MRM term with F&W.

OCCC Aquarium Science Building update: O'Connor

The new building will consist of teaching labs and teaching space on first floor with offices on the second floor. OCCC is waiting to hear from the state Legislature on community college capital construction funds for the building.

Meeting frequency

After discussion, it was decided that this committee should meet each 6 months.