

Professional Development Day
25 March 2010
Chemistry Cluster Minutes

In Attendance: Cervalo, J., Chow, E., Gorgevska, A., Gupta, S., Judd, C., Sellers, T., Shreve, R.

Item 1: The cluster revisited the topic of requiring withdrawal from lecture and lab classes at the same time (the current policy) which was discussed in the general science meeting. The cluster would like to recommend that associate deans try to discourage students from taking this option and so limit the number of independent withdrawals.

Item 2: The cluster discussed the need to change chm1046 from a co-requisite with chm2210 to a pre-requisite. The cluster members have noted the difficulty of taking both courses with labs during the same semester and that students taking both are less well prepared for the material in chm2210. Therefore, the cluster would like to recommend that chm1046 and chm1046L be changed to pre-requisites for chm2210.

Item 3: The cluster discussed the order and timing at which text books come up for renewal. Since no one in the administration was able to provide us with the information it was decided to look at chm1020/chm1020L textbooks in the fall for possible spring adoption. Texts for chm1025 will be discussed in spring 2012 for possible adoption in fall 2012. Chm1045/1046 and chm1045L/1046L text books will be discussed in the spring 2011 for adoption in the fall of 2011. Chm2210/2211 will be discussed in the fall 2010 for possible adoption in spring 2011. The chm2210L/2211L text is a custom edition for PBSC and will be renewed at the same time as the lecture text adoption.

Item 4: Changes to the course numbering in the catalog proposed by the administration were discussed. The cluster unanimously voted in favor of retaining the current system. The proposed changes to chm1025 (to add lab requirement, etc) would, in the view of the cluster, completely counter the intention of having a preparatory chemistry course.

Item 5: Once again the cluster discussed the need to have adjunct enforce the rule in labs for students to wear safety goggles at all times.

Item 6: RShreve asked the cluster members' opinion on the conflict between student dress required by religious beliefs and safety. Of special concern, female students with long skirts and/or head coverings. The cluster decided that modifications such as pinning the skirt to avoid a tripping hazard and binding the head covering to allow maximum field of sight were sufficient.

Item 7: TSellers asked that the college administration provide a policy for faculty members to deal with disruptive or upset students in the professor's office. Possible interventions are to require students to swipe their Panther ID card before being admitted to the office area or a centralized appointment area (physical or on-line) so that a college wide record can be kept.

With no further business, the cluster adjourned.