

# MCS College Council

## Meeting Minutes | 02/25/2010

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### **In Attendance:**

Amy Burkert  
C. Wesley Cowan  
Greg Franklin  
Christine Gilchrist  
Fred Gilman

Eric Grotzinger  
Roy Nicolaidis  
Agoston Pisztor  
John Woolford  
David Yaron

### **Not Present:**

Rebecca Freeland  
Sharon McCarl

Reinhard Schumacher  
Noel Walkington

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### Approval Request for New Undergraduate Biology Courses:

- Purpose and benefits of both courses:
    - Good preparation for Cell Biology and Biochemistry
    - Students are better grounded in the fundamentals of experimentation.
    - The students involved in Phage Hunters and SRI were better equipped in subsequent lab settings. This is an opportunity for those who were not selected for the aforementioned programs.
    - Students and faculty are more likely to develop a relationship in a lab setting.
    - The pilot of the course may be used as a model for more discovery-based courses in other departments.
    - Will provide more opportunities for Bio students to take biology-related courses within the first two years of the program.
  - 1. 03-126 Cellular Response to the Environment
    - a. Pilot was successful.
    - b. Resources are not an issue. Many faculty members are available. The lab is currently available.
    - c. A lot of student interest for the course.
    - d. Will fit into time slot currently filled by Eureka.
  - 2. 03-127 How Biological Experiments Work – A project course
    - a. The instructor, Karen Thickman, will be available to continue to teach the course.
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### 21-124 Calculus with Modeling and Probability

1. Course not yet approved by CUA
2. May be recommended for both Chemistry and Biology..
3. Not a course that would provide a sufficient educational foundation for a physics student.
4. Need to articulate why the course should be restricted to individual department(s).
  - a. Currently biology students to not get a lot from 21-122.
  - b. The text contains little of interest to physics students.
5. Missing combinatorial math.
6. Now that laptops can be purchased at \$250, is it reasonable to require students to purchase one for use in this class? If not, start a discussion about a loaner/donor program.

- a. The university has a license for the necessary software, so it will not be an added expense.
7. The committee will meet again and make a proposal to Dean Gilman.