

DSC Faculty Meeting

September 18, 2017

DSL 499 – 2:30 PM

- I. Faculty Attending the Meeting: P. Beerli, G. Erlebacher, C. Huang, A. Meyer-Baese, J. Peterson, T. Plewa, B. Quaife, S. Shanbhag, D. Slice, X. Wang
- II. Preparation for Hurricane Irma was a success.
- III. Current enrollment for fall 2017 is around 34 undergraduate students and 44 graduate students. Gordon hopes to increase the number of undergraduate students to 60 by June 2018 and 100 by June 2019.
- IV. The Department Ad campaign has kicked in. A search for FSU Computer Science will actually bring up our departmental add. If you click the ad our department is charged so we should not click the ad. On mobile devices our department pays for every click. We are also geo-fencing the students within a 3 mile radius of the Love Building. Typically students around this radius are interested in computer science and math – potentially could be interested in our major.
- V. Hackathon is scheduled to take place in February 2018. Gwen Lofman and others from the department are working on this event.
- VI. Ming Ye, although he is leaving our department, will continue his teaching duties and committee duties fall 2017 and spring 2018. Roles/responsibilities for Janet Peterson and Max Gunzburger will be changing over this academic year and beyond. They will have fewer responsibilities. Most likely it will be fall 2019 before new hiring can take place. Our ratio of faculty to students is better than other departments. As our faculty numbers decrease perhaps ISC 3313 can be taught by graduate students and perhaps the requirement to take 6 credits of electives within our department can be shifted to outside our department
- VII. There is a problem with funding our TA's now that PIC is gone. There is a need to be more creative to find ways to fund these. Max funded about 7, 8 TA's. Funding for TA's is emphasized, when students join the department, to be for 5 years max. RA's support is based on faculty need.

- VIII. Gordon would like to see an increase in our numbers for the Master's degree. These degrees are to be self- paid by the students. Other issues regarding graduate students were related to declaring the advisor in the first year. Peter Beerli favors declaring the faculty advisor in the first year. If the advisor is declared in year one work for the prospectus can begin – summary of research, proposal work, conference papers, etc. This should be done before the preliminary exam. There were different viewpoints regarding this.
- IX. Graduate students should be writing grant proposals and are required to attend proposal writing workshops. The deadline to submit is Friday September 22, 2017. It was mentioned that there is only one shot/opportunity to submit to NSF; therefore, use the first year to learn how to write and submit to NSF in the second year of graduate study.
- X. Gordon led a discussion about class attendance. Should students be allowed to take exams and do graded class work without actually attending classes – a thought for the future perhaps.
- XI. There was a discussion about encouraging our grad students to take jobs within the FSU community. If faculty learn of positions perhaps they should contact their advisees about these opportunities.
- XII. Gordon mentioned that faculty should have received information how to make up the “lost” week of classes. Suggestions included adding 5 minutes to class, 2 online lectures, give extra reading assignments, etc.
- XIII. Meeting was adjourned