

Faculty Meeting

August 25, 2025

2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

DSL 499

Present: Peter Beerli, Hristo Chipilski, Nick Dexter, Gordon Erlebacher, Chen Huang, Alan Lemmon, Anke Meyer-Baese, Tomek Plewa, Sachin Shanbhag, Xiaoqiang Wang, Olmo Zavala Romero

1. Peter opened the meeting with a discussion about our graduate student numbers. Currently, there are 21 Ph.D. students and 4 M.S. students. The BOG evaluates our production of MS and PhD students; the metric evaluates the number of MS graduates over 3 years, and needs to be higher than 20; this year, we failed on that metric. The Dean's office has reached out to us so that we can work on an explanation. Peter has written a memo discussing the issues with our MS recruitment and sent it to the associate dean, Karen McGinnis.
2. Currently, the department offers eight specializations within the Ph.D. Program – i.e., Specialization in Biology. Peter suggested we eliminate these areas of specialization. The faculty will need to vote on this issue.
3. Voting for new members of the Executive Committee: The faculty voted anonymously for two members; the chair appointed the other two members. The executive committee members must be tenured faculty.
4. The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.