I. Faculty attending: P. Beerli, G. Erlebacher, C. Huang, A. Lemmon, J. Peterson, T. Plewa, B. Quaife, S. Shanbhag, D. Slice, X. Wang

II. Minutes from March 6, 2017 were approved.

III. Karey Fowler, new academic advisor was introduced.

IV. It is estimated that 22 – 23 undergraduates will begin the major in fall 2017. Gordon has been participating in FSU transfer orientations for fall 2017. The final transfer orientation is May 22, 2017. Following this date freshmen orientations will begin and Scientific Computing will be present at Moore Auditorium.

V. Mike McDonald has placed the announcement of the $2,500 Computational Scholarship on the department’s home page. The deadline for applications, transcripts, and letters is July 31, 2017. There are 2 scholarships for freshmen/sophomores and 2 for juniors. There was discussion on ways to advertise the scholarship around FSU and even nationally.

VI. There was discussion of ways to advertise the major. About 950 e-mails were generated through Hack FSU.

VII. The movie created to advertise the major has been viewed with mostly favorable consensus. There may be a need, however, for the College of Communication to create a second video.

VIII. There was discussion to incorporate at least two common courses between SC and GFDI.

IX. Six grad students have accepted offers for fall 2017. April 15, 2017 is the deadline to respond. It is expected that a few more will accept the offer by that deadline.

X. There are rumors of upcoming changes in PIC within the next 1-2 years, which might affect our allocation of PIC TAs, particularly the Excel Spreadsheet course. The details are not yet known.

XI. Discussion of concern over students not responding or not receiving e-mails. Only 4 undergrads attended the pizza party and few attended the EXPO. How can this be improved?

XII. Gordon attended FSU meeting of deans. FSU keeps rising in national rankings. Enrollment is up about 15%. Graduation timeline is still about 4-6 years at FSU, also nationally. This needs to improve.

XIII. There was discussion that now about 50% of class start times do not fall in the “normal” category of 8:00, 9:05, 10:10, etc. Does this create issues for faculty?

XIV. Blackboard will be phased out over the next 2 years. It will be replaced by Canvas. A trial test run will begin in fall 2017.

XV. The preliminary date for grad students is May 25, 2017.
XVI. Jennifer Buchanan sent email notifications that USF wants to explore the possibility of developing a Scientific Computing major. Discussion followed with both pros and cons.

XVII. Meeting adjourned.