

DSC Faculty Meeting

Monday October 1, 2018

DSL 499 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Present: Peter Beerli, Gordon Erlebacher, Chen Huang, Alan Lemmon, Anke Meyer-Baese, Tomek Plewa, Sachin Shanbhag

Minutes from the meeting held September 10, 2018 were approved

1. There are currently about 40 undergraduate students. Discussion followed suggesting ways to increase our numbers and retain students.
2. ISC 1057 was discussed as a feeder course to our major. In spring 2019 Janet Peterson will teach ISC 1057 online. Online courses are taught very differently than face to face classes. These courses are segmented into three timed sections. Tomek felt that face to face engagement of ISCS 1057 increases our opportunity to grow our undergraduate numbers. He also suggested offering a face to face class that would be equation and coding free.
3. Our faculty is small and potentially overextended. The department is somewhat limited as to building new feeder courses. Anke suggested we look into FSU hiring policies regarding minorities and diversity. She also suggested the possibility of having teaching postdoctoral positions. Anke thought Laurel Fulkerson might have some thoughts about the viability of this idea.
4. Gordon said an effort is being made to be more connected to our students. Kelsey Keen, known as Jack, is one of our undergrads who is also majoring in Biomathematics. She and a few of our grad students are involved in tutoring our students in ODE's and linear algebra. Additionally they've created a fun activity that involves coding and problem solving. We are looking into [hackerrank.com](https://www.hackerrank.com/products/school/) to organize weekly coding competitions, which can be extended to various topics. I've been given this link <https://www.hackerrank.com/products/school/>
5. The undergraduate committee plans to hold a round table discussion on Wednesday October 17, 2018 from 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. in room 422. Please alert your undergraduate students of this opportunity. The committee members are Peter Beerli, chair, Anke Meyer-Baese, and Dennis Slice.
6. There will be a meeting next Monday October 8, 2018 at 2:30 p.m. in 499 to discuss the mission, goals, and objectives of the department. These need to be clearly defined as the search begins for a new chair.
7. The meeting concluded at 3:30 p.m.