

Faculty Meeting Minutes
(Non-executive session)
November 1, 2016

Present: Bernard Deconinck (chair), Mark Kot, Nathan Kutz, Hong Qian, Anne Greenbaum, Ulrich Hetmaniuk, Randy LeVeque, Eric Shea-Brown, Tim Leung, Sasha Aravkin, Matt Lorig, KK Tung

Absent: Emo Todorov, Chris Bretherton (sabbatical), Eli Shlizerman (on-leave)

Others present: Brian de Silva (student GSR), Lauren Lederer (staff representative), Laurie Feldman, Matt Austin

Proceedings:

- Meeting called to order by chair at 12:00pm.
- Minutes approved from June and October meetings.
- It was noted that students are organizing a fundraiser to raise money to support SIAM UW activities in the department. All donations are made to Friends of Applied Math and made available to SIAM UW through the department. Information has been sent via email should faculty wish to support the effort. Previously, the same fundraiser sustained activities for seven years.
- The memorial for Carl Pearson will be held Monday, November 21st approximately 5-7pm here at the department with a few members of his family present. Faculty from AA will be invited as well.
- Bernard reminded faculty that the process for renewing adjunct and affiliate faculty appointments was discussed in a prior meeting, where it was decided that the new process is a form. Anne expressed reservations on *requiring* the form. After discussion, it was decided to soften the language in the form and not make the form an impediment to renewal. The form is a useful tool in getting adjunct or affiliate faculty to think about contributions to the department. Bernard will remind faculty who is sponsoring whom.
- Eric discussed plans to create a University of Washington Computational Neuroscience Center (UW- CNC). The timing is ideal as there have been recent significant advances in this field and solicitations for large grant efforts are frequent. According to Eric, a center is necessary to improve coordination between the various parties involved across campus, thus building a working community. Also, competing institutions have already established collective enterprises such as this. Eric expects the center to be formally named in a couple of months, but funding and space will require a longer timeline. Randy inquired whether anything is needed from the department. Eric noted that financial support might be needed, but for now he just wants to loop in the department.
- Matt spoke about the progress of creating a Prob/Stat/Stoc course sequence. The sequence would be a three-quarter option, giving students the central tools they need and allow them to start research quicker. There will be a follow up discussion in January regarding these classes with regards to qualifying exams and curriculum overall. For now, faculty indicated they are fine with the proposed new sequence.

- Tim announced changes in the CFRM curriculum, namely the removal of pre-fall classes: CFRM 463 and 540. These classes are no longer needed as the applicant pool has strengthened. Some of the topics covered in these classes will be incorporated into other classes. Instead of two credits from CFRM 540, students will take a required two credit ethics course in winter quarter. Tim also plans to introduce a machine learning class and welcomes collaboration with other faculty members. Formal course proposals will be presented to the faculty for approval when ready.