

Faculty Meeting Minutes  
(Non-executive session)  
February 7, 2017

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

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

Others present: Brian de Silva (student GSR), Lauren Lederer (staff representative); Matt Austin, Laurie Feldman, Derek Franz (staff present at start of meeting for announcements)

Proceedings:

- Meeting called to order by chair at 12:00pm.
- Bernard announced that a major building project will take place next door starting as early as autumn 2018. A dorm and small grocery outlet will replace the current tennis courts. This is expected to be 1 ½ to 2-year project. More immediately, the area behind Lewis Hall will be used for construction staging. Eventually the staging area will be replaced with a green space, Lewis Grove, but that will happen around 2020.
- Prior meeting minutes were approved.
- Lauren was recognized for five years of service.
- Bernard expressed concern that decisions made at the faculty retreat on required PhD course sequences might leave students without advanced coursework and freedom to choose classes. Nathan, seconded by Eric, expressed the desire to adhere to the decision made at the faculty retreat to require all three sequences. They stated that they had considered the consequences on advanced coursework. They reiterated that if students wanted to take classes beyond the sequences, they could, and would if so urged by the advisor. Mark verified that many students choose electives outside the department, but mostly from CSE, Stat and Math. Not so many courses are taken from application departments. After further discussion, it was proposed to stay with the agreement from the retreat (requiring all three sequences: AMATH 567-8-9, 561-2-3, 584-5-6), but the requirement that two of the remaining 4 courses have two be from outside the department was eliminated. Two of the four electives must be advanced (i.e. not parallel to an undergraduate class), and may be outside the department if so desired. Anne motioned, Mark seconded; all approved.
- Student feedback indicates that PhD students would prefer a longer timeframe to complete first year reading requirements. Specifically, they would like the deadline to be by the end of autumn quarter of their second year, i.e. within their first 5 quarters. This is to allow students who do not enter with a fellowship more time to reach the requirement as they will have significant time commitments for their TA appointments. Eric motioned, Matt seconded; all approved.

- Bernard recommended that AMATH 515 replace AMATH 507 as an elective for online students. It would be offered on a rotating schedule similar to 507, with the first offering online in winter 2019. Sasha has agreed to teach AMATH 515 as an online class.
- It was announced that Eric agreed to serve on the Diversity Committee, which is comprised of faculty, staff, and students. Lauren is the staff representative. They are joined by 4 student volunteers.