

AUGUSTA STATE UNIVERSITY
Department of Chemistry and Physics
Academic Year 2006 – 2007 Unit Plan
15 December, 2006 Progress Report

SECTION 2. Summary of Challenges and Goals

Challenge 1 (VPAA Goals 3 & 4, Dean Challenge 3):

Goals:

1a. Complete two searches for tenure-track Ph.D. Physics faculty members.

Progress: More than forty completed applications have been reviewed by the search committee members (Hauger, Busch, Colbert). A list of four top candidates (one a geophysicist, three physics) has been compiled and each candidate was contacted and interviewed over the phone by Dr. Hauger. Three candidates were invited to campus and one has completed an on-campus interview. We look forward to completing interviews in January, 2007.

1b. Acquire a new tenure-track Ph.D. Chemistry faculty position to begin AY 2007-2008.

Progress: The need for an additional chemistry faculty position has been discussed with the Dean of PCAS.

1c. Acquire a new tenure-track Ph.D. Physics faculty position to begin AY 2007 - 2008.

Progress: The need for an additional physics faculty position has been discussed with the Dean of PCAS.

Challenge 2 (VPAA Goal 3, Dean Challenge 2):

Goals:

2c. The department's web site will be updated so that information is available as a recruiting tool. This will include information about research opportunities within the department and a summary of the types of employment and/or post-graduate educational opportunities available.

Progress: A new web site has been designed by Dr. Zuckerman. Department faculty have been asked to submit information for addition to the site. In addition, Dr. Hauger has enlisted several students to assist with a reorganization of the website. Dr. Hauger has also discussed this with Kathy Schofe in Public Relations.

Challenge 3 (VPAA Goals 5 & 4):

Goals:

3a. Participate in the campus-wide plan for technology and equipment needs, including documentation of needs. This will include plans for renovation of several physics laboratory rooms. In addition, the department will attempt to secure funding for additional library funds for the chemical database Crossfire-Beilstein.

Progress: A 6-user license for the Crossfire-Beilstein database is now in place. At this point, the department has received \$25,000 from the ASU Foundation for physics laboratory equipment and expects another \$25,000 soon. A list of physics laboratory data-acquisition equipment and associated computer equipment has been submitted for bids. We expect to order this equipment in the next few weeks and begin using it in the Spring 2007 semester.

3b. Document a) additional non-personnel funding for supplies, communications, travel, etc. and b) additional funding for staff, student assistant and current faculty needed to support department course offerings, programs and departmental functions.

Progress: A proposal for the creation of a lab fee for some chemistry courses was submitted after it was noticed that laboratory supplies were a large portion of the department's monthly budget.

We were also awarded two scholarships for physics/pre-engineering students from OMI/C2HM Hill. Each scholarship was worth \$2000. Two students were identified by a committee composed of all physics faculty (Busch, Colbert, Hauger).

Challenge 4 (VPAA Goal 2 & 4, Dean Challenge 1):

Goals:

4b. Complete a departmental self-study of our curriculum and resource requirements. This will include an examination of the appropriateness of our current curriculum and resource requirements to make any necessary improvements.

Progress: Proposals for the addition of a computational physics course and the related changes to the physics degree program have been submitted and approved by the campus Academic Affairs committee. We also have submitted changes to our chemistry programs to add a one credit hour lab component to the advanced inorganic chemistry course. Submissions were also made to create the new integrated science courses and to incorporate mandated changes in our secondary education programs in physics/mathematics and chemistry.

SECTION 4. Assistance from Other Units

Assistance for Challenge 1 (Goals 1a, 1b, and 1c):

1a. Office of the Dean of Arts and Sciences; Office of VPAA.

Status: Discussions with the Dean of PCAS have occurred resulting in placement of advertisements for position searches.

1b. Office of the Dean of Arts and Sciences; Office of VPAA.

Status: Discussions with the Dean of PCAS have occurred.

1c. Office of the Dean of Arts and Sciences; Office of VPAA.

Status: Discussions with the Dean of PCAS have occurred.

Assistance for Challenge 2 (Goal 2a, 2b, 2c, and 2d):

2a. None requested.

2b. Student Records; Information Technology Services.

Status: PIN numbers were used for Spring 2007 pre-registration. A record of advisement was made in all students advised by this department.

2c. None requested.

2d. None requested.

Assistance for Challenge 3 (Goals 3a and 3b):

3a. Office of the Dean of PCAS; Information Technology Services; Information Technology Committee; Business Office.

Status: Discussions with the Dean of PCAS and AVPAA resulted in funding of Crossfire-Beilstein.

3b. Office of the Dean of Arts and Sciences; Office of the VPAA.

Status: Discussions with the Dean of PCAS resulted in lab fee proposal.

Assistance for Challenge 4 (Goals 4a and 4b):

4a. None requested.

4b. Dean of PCAS.

Status: Plans for several curriculum changes discussed with Dean of PCAS.