Minutes from Chemistry Program Faculty Meeting  1/16/2009

Present: E. Billiot, Causgrove, Coeckelenbergh, Egan, Larkin, Mendez, Silliman, Southard

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss objectives, measures, and findings required for WEAVE Online. Suggestions for changes to objectives were:

1. Rather than specify OWL for an online web presence in General Chemistry, include material made available through WebCT and wiki pages.

2. Adjust the objective of enrollment in General Chemistry to include enrollment in Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry, because those courses also include a large service component.

3. Enhance student achievement in effective oral and written communication through:
   a) Increasing the emphasis on written questions on exams (similar to standardized exams, where the student reads a paragraph and answers questions)
   b) Increasing the amount of exam questions with a written response
   c) Critical evaluation of how lab reports are written
   A challenge to carrying out these changes in lower level courses is the large enrollment per section

4. Require a research presentation for students in Directed Independent Study

5. Include an objective of training in a variety of techniques and instruments - an objective measure for this would be required

6. Include a recitation session during laboratory time

Other objectives were generally agreed to as written.

Faithfully submitted,

Tim Causgrove