

**New York City College of Technology
Interdisciplinary Committee
November 11, 2014**

Reneta D. Lansiquot, Founding Chair
Sean P. MacDonald, Secretary

Present: Reneta D. Lansiquot, Sean P. MacDonald, Dionne Bennett, Monica Berger, Candido Cabo, Urmi Ghosh-Dastidar, Aida Egues, Ezra Halleck, Jean E. Hillstrom, Paul King, Robert Leston, Olufemi Sondeinde, Rebecca Shapiro

Excused: Johannah Rodgers; Gwen Cohen-Brown

Absent: Laina Karthikeyan, Janet Liou-Mark, Lauren Park, Andleeb Zameer

1. **Approval of minutes** from October 21, 2014; motion to approve – Urmi; Paul seconded; approved.
2. **Reneta: Update on Interdisciplinary courses on CUNY first**; now in CUNY first the college option designation is noted.

3. Update on special topics course – Physics in the Kitchen

Candido met with the proposers regarding remaining issues with their course proposal along with the chair of the Hospitality Management department. Discussed the question of what students would take the course? Which other faculty will be able to teach the course in addition to those in physics? Also discussed was the question of what department would host the course. It was agreed the course proposal would be revised for a vote on **December 9**.

Physics indicated that the course would be housed in their dept. Reneta indicated that the appeal as a special topics course should be broader – ie, “science in the kitchen.” Discussion focused on this issue and that the course design needed to be broader. It was also emphasized that the proposal needs to make clear that that the course will be ‘in the kitchen.’

When we review the revised proposal, we can still raise this issue. Reneta, the Provost and Curriculum Committee are aware of the issue of the need for a broader design; we will wait to see what happens as the course goes through the approval process. The thinking is that there will be only one section offered initially because there is only one person in physics who can teach the course.

What needs to be changed in the proposal: Ezra – it needs to be made clear that it would be taught in the kitchen and it needs to identify who is eligible to take the course: (anyone who passed Math 1175) and that there is no physics requirement. The proposers were also asked to come up with a template for how other sciences could teach the course.

4. **Ezra and Paul update on student contest and Poster**: Paul indicated that the prize of a meal with the professor is something students liked in architecture; Ezra pointed out that it doesn't necessarily have to be with faculty. Dionne suggested perhaps it could be “win a free meal.” Another suggestion (Robert): Change “with faculty” to “Win a chance to dine on us.” Another: “Win a chance to dine at the Janet Leffler dining room.”

Aida also pointed out that we should add an ID indicator next to ‘interdisciplinary’ o the poster.

Rebecca suggested we should also add: “Students: complete this on line survey.” We will also note ‘free’ meal in that paragraph.

Reneta also noted that the City Tech logo and ID logo should be included on the poster; we will make the changes and send these out for further review.

5. **Reneta, Monica and Dionne: Update on student contest and poster.** Suggestions: Complete this online survey to show us your interests and help us to develop new [interdisciplinary] ID courses...

Dionne suggested we also ask students what other disciplines interest them, and suggested we ask what options or majors are of interest to students; answers to these questions could inform future course development that might be in these areas.

We should send drafts of poster updates and student contest to Paul and Ezra.

Brochure: what should be changed? Typos, spaces between A.A. and A.S. etc. (Rebecca, Johannah, and Monica have worked on the brochure in the past. What changes have been made)? Reneta suggested that the brochure be sent out for us to make any final recommendations.

6. Monica and Urmi (co-chairs of social outreach subcommittee) report on our four special topics interdisciplinary course presentation series and plans for the last presentation on Tues. Nov. 18 3-4 pm. Candido will be at the presentation event on the 18th (Physics in the Kitchen) as Ezra won't be able to be there.
7. **IDC meeting schedule times next semester:** Reneta proposed Tuesdays at 2:00 PM - whatever date that college council is not meeting.
8. Next meeting on Tuesday Dec. 9 we will discuss the Physics in the Kitchen proposal. Motion to adjourn – Candido.