

COLLEGE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
FISHER COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS
1:30 pm – 3:30 pm, April 14, 2023
Kistner Conference Room, SC 4230

The FCSM College Council met in the Science Complex, Room 4230 at 1:30 p.m. with Dr. Pamela Lottero-Perdue, Chairperson, presiding. An option to Zoom into the meeting was made available; 1 participant (Min Ji) attended via Zoom.

Member Attendees: **Interim Dean:** Chris Salice; **Associate Dean:** Vonnie Shields; **Biological Sciences:** Elana Ehrlich (Recording Secretary), Anne Estes; **Chemistry:** Stephen Hancock, Nicole Carbonaro; **Computer and Information Sciences:** Jinie Pak, Yeong-Tae Song; **Mathematics:** Min Ji (Vice Chairperson), Jing Tian; **Physics, Astronomy, & Geosciences:** Michelle Casey, Raj Kolagani (Corresponding Secretary); **At Large:** Faith Weeks (Biology), Pamela Lottero-Perdue (PAGS; Chairperson); **Students:** Emily O'Donnell on zoom (ENVS, Graduate); Kelsey Evans (Chemistry; Undergraduate)

Absent: 0

1. Introductions
2. Approval of minutes from the March 10, 2023 FCSM Council meeting. Approved 14 (unanimously approved).
3. Announcements and remarks from the Dean and Associate Dean.
 - 3.1. Interim Dean Salice.
 - 3.1.1. Fourteen positions most have been filled, enrollment is up 6% the increase is in freshman enrollment, not with transfer students.
 - 3.1.2. Phones should be resolved by end of the academic year.
 - 3.1.3. Planning for the upcoming transition to the new dean.
 - 3.1.4. Office of Graduate Studies will pay summer stipends, which used to be funded by departments.
 - 3.2. Associate Dean Shields.
 - 3.2.1. Open house tomorrow, reports from enrollment – open houses are successful.
 - 3.2.2. LSAMP launch was April 13. Opportunities for students to do research and participate in programming, applications due May 1
4. Announcements from the Council Chairperson.
 - 4.1. President's Cabinet Assessment: Please help the Academic Senate in the distribution of the leadership assessment for the President's Cabinet. All faculty can respond. The link is below, and the deadline is May 27. Thanks so much for your help!
<https://baseline.campuslabs.com/tu/leadershipassessmentprescabinet>
 - 4.2. Nomination for College Promotion and Tenure Committee: Can nominate two people for biology and two for math. Please nominate tenured faculty to the College Promotion and Tenure committee. The terms of the Biology and Mathematics faculty representatives will expire this year. Use the ballot sent via email to self-nominate or nominate a willing faculty member from Biological Sciences and/or Mathematics.

5. Highlights from FCSM Departments.
 - 5.1. Biological Sciences.
 - 5.1.1. Hired Plant Physiologist, in negotiations with Micro/Virology candidate, aligning courses with vision and change standards.
 - 5.2. Chemistry.
 - 5.2.1. The Chemistry department is excited to welcome Dr. Kyle Edwards as our new assistant professor of inorganic chemistry.
 - 5.2.2. The search for a Forensic Chemistry tenure track position was unsuccessful.
 - 5.2.3. The chemistry department continues to compile and discuss data related to student success to generate actionable strategies to improve student outcomes – especially for students belonging to historically marginalized communities.
 - 5.3. Computer and Information Sciences.
 - 5.3.1. Ten candidates visited for on campus interviews. Four accepted the offer. Remaining two positions already selected. We are waiting for their replies.
 - 5.4. Mathematics.
 - 5.4.1. We have a draft proposal for department merit and workload guidelines. Comments and suggestions are welcome.
 - 5.5. Physics, Astronomy, and Geosciences
 - 5.5.1. The FCSM machinist position has been filled. Bill Spekis joined us in February and plans to have the machine shop up and running by Friday, March 10. Stop by and see him in SC 2303 (the machine shop) if you have any requests.
 - 5.5.2. PAGES has filled the tenure-track position in Geosciences. Dr. George Guice was offered and has accepted the position. He will start in August.
 - 5.5.3. Candidate visits for the tenure-track position in Astrophysics have concluded. Hopefully an offer will be made by the end of this week or the beginning of next week.
 - 5.5.4. The Materials Instrument Support Specialist position has many applicants (approximately 17), interviews will begin shortly.
 - 5.5.5. The UEHL Instrument Support Specialist position has approximately seven applicants, interviews will begin shortly.
6. Standing Agenda Items.
 - 6.1. DEIJ actions, opportunities, issues, and concerns – Task force continues meeting with individual departments.
 - 6.2. Senate update/communications
 - 6.2.1. Interim President Perreault: New TU President will arrive in the Fall 2023. The final TU budget will be approved by legislators April 10. New Ph.D. students will receive a \$35,000 stipend plus benefits.
 - 6.2.2. Smith Hall will be renovated by 2026 (then we will move back).
 - 6.2.3. AAUP President Elin Lobel: Annual AAUP meeting and voting of new executive committee members will be held via Zoom April 27.
 - 6.2.4. Senators approved several new programs i.e., Professional Communication minor and Communication & Advocacy master of sciences..
 - 6.2.5. The motion 22/23-35: To approve Academic Department Chairpersons' Roles and Responsibilities. The sentence: “A summary of the results shall be provided to the chairperson and the faculty by the Dean no later than the last of week of classes of the Spring semester”, was heavily discussed and a vote was postponed for May meeting.

7. Constitution and Bylaws Work:
 - 7.1. Constitution vote
 - 7.1.1. Changes to membership: Addition of Inclusive student success representative, staff representatives, STEM education faculty representative, lecturer/clinical faculty representative; removed interdisciplinary representatives; and student reps will be appointed by council chair until a student council is up and running.
 - 7.1.2. Changes to officers: Recording and corresponding secretary become two co-secretaries.
 - 7.1.3. A Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice (DEIJ) standing committee was added.
 - 7.1.4. Vote – 14 vote to approve constitution as it is written (unanimously approved).
 - 7.2. Bylaws discussion and feedback request
 - 7.2.1. Lots of changes, mostly in organization, language was changed regarding individual committees, all committees must have liaison to college council, should be committee chair, committees must meet at least once per semester, guidelines regarding documentation and record keeping, changed annual report deadline to May 31, added DEIJ committee and STEM education committee, modified committee by-laws.
 - 7.2.2. Discussion about whether standing committee meetings need to be open to the public and publicized? In the interest of inclusion and transparency should meetings be open and advertised?
 - 7.2.3. Vote – 14 vote to approve by-laws as written (unanimously approved).
 - 7.2.4. Amended after discussion about open nature of some standing committee meetings.
 - 7.2.5. Vote – 14 vote to approve by-laws as written (unanimously approved).
 - 7.3. Staff council update - discussions about representation on college council and staff participation in process, making sure incoming Dean continues support.
8. Ongoing Issues/Initiatives.
 - 8.1. FCSM Student Council Ad hoc Committee updates
 - 8.1.1. From February 27 Undergraduate meeting led by Kelsey Evans, FCSM CC Undergraduate Student Representative and Sirantou Traore, FCSM SGA representative. Updates during meeting were from Kelsey Evans:
 - a) Awareness about the college council - The students didn't know that the college council existed, and they would like to know more about the council and have more information about what it does.
 - b) They would like to know how effective the council is, and they want to be updated on things the council does.
 - c) They want the college council to be a resource for the students and getting to know them.
 - d) College wide issues - More interactive classes, hikes for geology, fun experiments in chemistry.
 - e) Certain classroom styles, like flipped classrooms, hinder performance.
 - f) Research and graduate business - More advertisement for research and overall, more opportunities and guidance for students who are graduating.
 - g) Communication with students - Something like TU today for STEM, like weekly emails for only STEM, with events or things that are happening that week, as well as opportunities available for the students.
 - h) The giant board is not the best advertisement space, it is too slow when you miss a flyer. The process to be posted on the big screen is too much.
 - i) Lack of encouragement and support from professors - Create a more welcoming environment for departments to be more supportive, especially in the chemistry department. The department doesn't feel very welcoming.
 - j) Professors teaching calculus/mathematics underestimate the difficulty.

- k) Future college council - For the meeting, meet on zoom and in person (so people that can't attend in person have the opportunity to participate too) at the same time and have a meeting maybe once a semester.
 - l) Tentative date: Adhoc council planned a second meeting for Monday May 8 at 5 p.m.
 - m) Having elected members is ideal but it is something we would need to work on.
- 8.1.2. From February 20 Graduate meeting led by Emily O'Donnell, FCSM CC Graduate Student Representative, and Marcus Tuah, GSA President and FCSM GSA Representative. Updates during the meeting were from Emily O'Donnell.
- a) Graduate students want a space outside of the Meet and Confer Meeting and to discuss issues directly with administration.
 - b) Administration should be accountable for responding to students/provide follow-up to issues raised in one form or another.
 - c) Stipend/health insurance/benefits of graduate students are not adequate for the current cost of living (not asking for luxury, only asking for help).
 - d) Current graduate students do not feel they are provided with enough support and infrastructure in their own programs/research so do not understand how we will move forward to R2 without it in place – see notes below for specifics.
 - e) Not enough office space for TAs and RAs to work/hold office hours.
 - f) Graduate students are interested in starting a student council but there was hesitancy for anyone to step up. Many believed it would be hard to get someone to dedicate time to this when we are all stretched as it is. Want to continue to discuss how we might form a student council at the next meeting and over the next academic year to gain more momentum to ramp this up.
- 8.2. FCSM Outstanding Part-time Faculty Award language (vote).
Vote – 14 voted to approve as written (unanimously approved).
9. New Business
- 9.1. Electric Vehicle chargers: Request for department representatives to please gather information at their next department meetings to share needs for EV spaces in Glen Garage with Raj Kolagani, who will provide the information to the dean's office for considering further action. Mathematics Workload Document – This was received earlier in the day for discussion today. In the document are three categories for faculty types: teaching intensive, balanced and research intensive and associated teaching loads, similar to what has been discussed in biology. Mathematics department representatives requested feedback during the meeting and afterwards via email if others had additional feedback to share.
10. Adjournment

Respectfully Submitted,

Elana Ehrlich

Recording Secretary