

To: FCSM Electorate

Members of the FCSM College Council:

Acting Dean: David Vanko; **Biological Sciences:** Sarah Haines, Vonnie Shields; **Chemistry:** David Larkin, Ryan Sours; **Computer Science:** Yuanqiong (Kathy) Wang, Harry Zhou; **Mathematics:** Linda Cooper (Sabbatical replacement for Honi Bamberger Fall 2008), Gail Kaplan; **Physics, Astronomy, & Geosciences:** Rommel Miranda (recording secretary for Fall 2008) (replacing Rajeswari Kolagani for Fall 2008), Phuoc Ha; **At Large:** Brian Fath (Biological Sciences), Angel Kumchev (Mathematics); **Students:** Michael Davis (Undergraduate Student), Cory Lavoie (Graduate Student)

FCSM Department Chairs

FCSM Secretaries – Please post one copy

Member-at-Large of the University Senate: Jay Zimmerman, Mathematics

MINUTES OF THE FCSM COLLEGE COUNCIL MEETING

September 12, 2008

The FCSM College Council met in the Dean's Conference Room, Smith Hall, room 306 at 1:30 p.m. on September 12, 2008; Ryan Sours, Vice-Chairperson presiding.

Attendance: David Vanko, Howard Kaplon, David Larkin, Ryan Sours, Kathy Wang, Linda Cooper, Gail Kaplan, Rommel Miranda, Phuoc Ha, Brian Fath, Angel Kumchev, Michael Davis, Cory Lavoie

Absent: Sarah Haines, Vonnie Shields (on maternity leave; Council Chair notified in advance)

1. The minutes from the May 2, 2008 meeting were approved unanimously, with the corrected spelling of Professor Phuoc Ha's name.

2. Announcements from Acting Dean Vanko

a. Enrollment

There are approximately 20,800 or so students this fall – an over attainment of our goal. Another 800-900 new FTE are projected for next fall, therefore the college could be given as many as 45 new PINs.

b. Space

The CGIS move to Terrace Dale is rumored to be scheduled for this fall, and this would open approximately 1000 sq. ft of space that FCSM could use.

Smith Hall expansion and renovation is now #1 on the list of new capital projects, and is projected to be budgeted at \$125,000,000. The project would take place in phases:

Phase 1- remove Linthicum Hall

Phase 2- build a 70,000 gross square foot (gsf) new science building

Phase 3- renovate current 220,000 gsf Smith Hall in two stages

c. STEM

There is a University wide STEM steering committee. The FCSM received \$100,000 from USM dedicated to STEM activities in FY 2008, and we have received this amount again this fiscal year. (These funds are being used to support a Science Elementary Education master teacher, STEM-TC program and for Hackerman Academy programming). This funding level is likely to continue in the future.

We also received one-time STEM funds from USM in the amount of \$600,000. Some possibilities for its use are:

- STEM Student experience (labs, computers)
- STEM Workforce needs (e.g., forensic, nursing)
- STEM Outreach (e.g., Hackerman, astronomy, robotics, Science Bus)
- STEM Teachers (e.g., teacher resource center, Science Bus)
- STEM Research (e.g., NMR, centrifuges)

d. Grants

In grants activity, FCSM faculty members were awarded \$2.98M last year! These awards involved 27 different faculty members (with 5 of those faculty members on multiple grants)! This exceeds our previous 3-yr average of \$1.4M.

In the current fiscal year, FCSM faculty members have already been awarded \$1.66M, \$1.33M of which is from Federal sources!

Some of the new proposals funded:

- NSF ADVANCE (\$192k)
- NSF Computational Thinking (\$140k)
- Research Corporation Organic chemistry (\$43k)
- NIH Seamless transition (\$113k)
- NSF Usability and accessibility (\$300k)
- BRAC- Enhancing K-12 engineering education (\$94k)
- NIST Carbon nanostructures (\$25k)
- NASA Hubble Space Telescope (\$28k)
- NSF CCLI Security in undergraduate computing (\$400k).

e. Gifts

The Fisher gift is having an influence on the college.
\$67,000 of spendable income was distributed last year.
\$239k will be distributed this year.

The Fisher gift is funding the endowed Fisher scholars. We awarded the first 2 in the fall of 2006, and the second 2 in the Fall of 2007. This year, we awarded 13 more Fisher scholarships. The large number this year is owing to the Fisher Foundation's wish that we get more funds into the hands of more students more quickly.

Faculty/Staff campaign: The University had 524 donors last year in the Faculty/Staff campaign. We have 800 faculty members and hundreds of staff.
We would like to see the number of donors increase.

f. Other Items

Provost's Fund Balance – we expect some one-time funds to be released in the near future. Our priorities are a new planetarium projector (\$70k); replacement of cat dissection with computers (\$26k); growth chambers; and an NMR instrument.

TOPS – Towson Opportunities in STEM – This is a major NSF-supported program that we really want to succeed. The goal is to increase the recruitment, retention and graduation of students from underrepresented groups in the STEM disciplines.

Along the same lines, we would like to increase the number of STEM secondary teachers three-fold in three years!!!

The School of Emerging Technology is being developed. There are three open forums scheduled later this month. One of the proposed programs is in Construction Management and Technology

The nucleus of the FCSM Advisory Board exists and has been meeting. Increasing the membership is an immediate goal. Last year the College Council expressed a desire to meet the advisory board. As the Advisory board develops, this meeting may happen in the spring 2009.

Promotion and Tenure – the Dean’s office is preparing a new memo that will clarify and simplify the guidelines for what is needed in the “Dean’s binder.”

Middle States accreditation is coming soon!!

3. Announcements from College Council Vice-Chairperson, Ryan Sours
 - a. Lynette Plenderleith stepped down from the college curriculum committee, thus a replacement is needed for her position. We would like to see a graduate student from 7800. Departments of Mathematics and Computer and Information Systems should ask colleagues or graduate students if they would like to serve on the college curriculum committee. Open call for 1 volunteer.
 - b. Kyndra Brown (Biology, undergraduate) was appointed to the college scholarship committee.

4. Discussion

a. Promotion and Tenure Committee

Composition of the Promotion and Tenure Committee: it was incorrectly stated that the Faculty Handbook does not describe the eligibility rules for this committee. In fact, the Handbook states “Eligible members shall include tenured faculty at the rank of either associate or full professor (pages 3-44).” Thus, it is clear that non-tenured faculty members are not eligible for the committee.

Replacements are needed for three of five positions on the college Promotion and Tenure Committee. For the sake of continuity, it would be better if no more than two members rotated off in any given year. The Council will explore ways to rectify this situation.

b. Substitute for faculty senate position (Rachel Burks)

Prof. Burks is unable to attend Senate meetings this fall, so prior to the College Council meeting, and electronic call for nominations for a substitute was held. The two nominees were Prof. Brain Fath and Prof. Alex Storrs. Professor Storrs was elected by a secret ballot of the Council.

c. Invitation to address College Council

Student Club presidents to tell council about their organizations

Someone from the Undergraduate Writing Center

Someone from the Graduate Writing and Statistics Lab

Cindy Ghent with regard to student STEM Leaders Group

Alicia Medina from Mathematics Tutoring in the Academic Achievement Center

d. Topics brainstormed regarding Pilot Trimester

Hybrid Trimester (5-Week, 10-Week Sessions)

Real trimester system (Three 14-Week Sessions)

Flexibility for faculty

Summertime conflicts (Conferences)

Child care implications

Summer teaching on-load

Contract Implications

Different departments have different needs

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rommel Miranda

Recording Secretary, Fall 2008

FCSM College Council