

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:** Derek Morgan (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

February 13, 2008

The FCSM College Council met in the Dean's Conference Room, Smith Hall, Room 306, at 1:30 p.m.; Vonnie Shields, Chairperson presiding.

Attendance: David Vanko, Howard Kaplon, Sarah Haines, Vonnie Shields, Lev Ryzhkov; Honi Bamberger, Gail Kaplan Harry Zhou, Rommel Miranda, Phuoc Ha Brian Fath, Cory Lavoie

Guests: Jay Zimmerman, Elizabeth Goode

Absent: David Larkin, Angel Kumchev (Council Chair notified in advance)
Yuanqiong (Kathy) Wang

1. Approving the minutes from the December 12, 2008 was postponed so that Dr. Phuoc Ha could present the different Merit Models to the FCSM College Council. A PowerPoint presentation provided members of the Council with specific information about the percentages and amounts of increase, for Merit Plus and Merit, for each of three models.

After a discussion, Rommel Miranda made the motion to have members of the College Council present the models to their departments and get feedback to bring back to the March 13th FCSM College Council meeting. This was seconded by Brian Fath and approved unanimously.

2. The minutes of the December 12, 2008 meeting were unanimously approved.
3. Announcements from Acting Dean, David Vanko
 - a. School of Emerging Technologies (SET) – The University Senate approved the procedures for establishing “new schools.” A concept overview for the SET is being looked at by the SET Task Force, the Deans' Council, and soon the Senate. The aim is to have this approved and within a month have a proposal to the Provost.

- b. The three-year pre-tenure reviews are being implemented across the campus this year. This provides additional feedback to tenure-track faculty. While the results of the review are shared with the Dean, they are not forwarded to either the college P & T committee or the Provost.
- c. FCSM is preparing a response for the General Education Review Committee that outlines a number of concerns that have been expressed. These include: 1) the requirement that all GenEd mathematics classes contain computer-based components; 2) the specific science requirements; 3) the limitation to the number of GenEd courses that may count toward a major; and 4) the specifics of the proposed new Towson Seminar.
- d. Plans and negotiations for the establishment of a Towson University Environmental and Natural Science Field Station are progressing. This project would allow TU to make use of a 238-acre property along the Gunpowder River in northern Baltimore County.
- e. Three new PINs are possible for the FCSM, to supplement the 10 faculty searches currently underway. If allocated, the PINs will be used for mathematics, anatomy & physiology, and environmental sciences.
- f. Faculty Development Committee – An ad hoc committee created by the Provost, with David Schaefer as the Chair, is asking for suggestions for completely re-vamping how we do faculty development. A survey will be sent out soon asking for information for this committee.
- g. Budget – Furloughs are in place, but other cuts may not be necessary. FCSM is currently spending \$600K on strategically targeted STEM initiatives with USM one-time funding. We also received \$155K on one-time funding from the Provost's fund balance account.
- h. The Fisher Foundation has no money for grants for this coming Fiscal 2010 year and probably none for the next year as well. In order to fund our Fisher Scholars through their graduation and add two Fisher Scholars each year for the next three years, the Robert Fisher Foundation agreed to donate an additional \$160,000.00 this year.
- i. All are encouraged to attend the FCSM Honors Convocation scheduled for Sunday, April 26th at 1:30 p.m.
- j. The FCSM Advisory Board Career Seminar Series begins next Thursday, February 19th, with a presentation by Don Taylor, CTO for Perdue Farms, Inc. of Salisbury, MD. The talk is at 4:00 p.m. in SM 326.
- k. The FCSM Reflective Process meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 20th from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. in Smith 326. 80% participation is expected.

4. Announcements by FCSM Council Chair, Vonnie Shields

- a. Spring elections will take place electronically, using Student Voice. Bob Farmer is the "point person".
- b. Ryan Sours has teaching responsibilities and is unable to continue as the Vice-Chair. The Council voted to ask Lev Ryzhkov to replace him.

5. Discussion Item

Faculty seem unclear as to what the FCSM College P&T documents are supposed to have in them. Brian Fath motioned that the P&T committee review what's expected and make clear what faculty should be including. Gail Kaplan seconded this motion.

6. Motion to adjourn made by Honi Bamberger. It was seconded by Rommel Miranda. The meeting ended at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Honi J. Bamberger
FCSM College Council Recording Secretary