

**To: FCSM Electorate**

Members of the FCSM College Council: **Acting Dean:** David Vanko; **Biology:** Sarah Haines, Vonnie Shields; **Chemistry:** David Larkin, Ryan Sours; **Computer Science:** Robert Hammell, Harry Zhou; **Mathematics:** Honi Bamberger, Gail Kaplan; **Physics, Astronomy, & Geosciences:** Rajeswari Kolagani, Vera Smolyaninova; **At Large:** Susan Gresens (Biology), Angel Kumchev (Math); **Students:** Michael Davis (Physics), Joe Norris (BIOL)

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 1, 2008

The FCSM College Council met in SM 306, at 1:30 p.m.; Vonnie Shields, Council Chair presiding.

**Attendance:** Bamberger, Beck, Davis, Larkin, Kaplon, Kumchev, Norris, Shields, Smolyaninova, Sours, Vanko, Zhou

**Absent:** Robert Hammell, Rajeswari Kolagani, Gail Kaplan, Sarah Haines (Council Chair notified in advance); Susan Gresens

The FCSM Council meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Dr. Vonnie Shields, Chair.

1. The minutes from the December 7, 2007 meeting were approved, unanimously, without correction.
2. Announcements from Acting Dean David Vanko (categorized by “big ideas”)
  - a. **Enrollment:** Next fall the colleges will have 49 new PINs, based on a student-faculty ratio of 20:1. The first 24 have already been given out and searches are underway. The FCSM has requested 9 new PINs. The College Council was given a list of these and asked to discuss priorities with Dean Vanko.
  - b. **Space:** All of the Deans did a walk-through of the newly purchased building at 7400 York Road and the Terrace Dale buildings. Talks are being conducted at the highest level with Associate Provost Katherine Denniston, who chairs the University space committee, to determine who will occupy space in these buildings.
  - c. **STEM:** Four areas were discussed:
    - Teacher Preparation (CSME)
    - STEP Pipeline (recruit and retain – TOPs and COSMIC)
    - STEM outreach (Hackerman Academy) The first two programs in the Hackerman Academy's Saturday Morning Science Series were held and were incredibly successful.
    - STEM instruction (STEM-TC) funds for next year – money is being allocated to sustain PhysTEC initiatives already begun and a search to hire a permanent staff member full-time is underway.

d. **Grants:**

- John LaPolla – awarded \$500,000.00 NSF grant;
- Joel Snodgrass (with Ryan Casey and Steve Lev) – awarded \$186,000.00 from the National Water Resources Institute and USGS;
- Richard Seigel – awarded \$287,000.00 from MD State Highway Authority;
- Department of Chemistry awarded \$212,000.00 from NSF-REU; and
- Department of Chemistry awarded \$141,000.00 to help establish a Forensic Science Institute from the U.S. Government, with Senator Ben Cardin and representative John Sarbanes being primarily responsible for getting this appropriation for Towson.

e. **Gifts:**

- Proposals for the \$67,000.00 of the Fiscal Year 2008 Fisher Endowment spendable income were reviewed and allocated funds. Almost every proposal was given some funding. April 1, 2008 will be the deadline for next year's grants. The Fiscal Year 2009 Fisher Endowment's spendable income will be approximately \$240,000.00.
- Other Initiatives include creating a School of Technology, which is being discussed with President Caret and Provost Jim Clements.

3. Announcements from College Council Chair, Vonnie Shields

Dr. Shields had no announcements to make other than to ask Dean Vanko to discuss the Chairs comments on the future strategic plan for the FCSM. Comments have been received and these will be forwarded to each member of the FCSM College Council to read through and be prepared to discuss at the March 7, 2008 meeting.

4. New Business

- a. Harald Beck was thanked for serving in place of Sarah Haines while she was on sabbatical leave.
- b. Michael Davis was introduced as the undergraduate student replacing Amanda Haapala on the FCSM College Council

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Honi J. Bamberger, Recording Secretary  
FCSM College Council