

To: FCSM Electorate

Members of the FCSM College Council

Acting Dean: David Vanko; **Acting Associate Dean:** Howard Kaplon; **Biological Sciences:** Sarah Haines, Harald Beck; **Chemistry:** Alan Pribula, Ryan Sours; **Computer Science:** Yuanqiong Wang, Siddarth Kaza; **Mathematics:** Honi Bamberger, Gail Kaplan; **Physics, Astronomy, & Geosciences:** Rajeswari Kolagani, Phuoc Ha; **At Large:** Brian Fath (Biological Sciences), James Saunders (MB3); **Students:** A. Mickey Dehn (Graduate Student), Derek Morgan (Undergraduate 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

October 09, 2009

The FCSM College Council met in 7800 York Rd., room 418, at 1:30 p.m.; Ryan Sours, Chairperson presiding.

Attendance: David Vanko, Howard Kaplon, Harald Beck, Alan Pribula, Ryan Sours, Yuanqiong Wang, Siddarth Kaza, Honi Bamberger, Gail Kaplan, Rajeswari Kolagani, Phuoc Ha, James Saunders, A. Mickey Dehn, Derek Morgan

Absent: Sarah Haines, Brian Fath – both notified Council in advance

1. Meeting called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Chair, Ryan Sours.
2. Minutes from the September 18, 2009 meeting were approved by twelve of the fourteen members present. Two members, not present at the September meeting, abstained.
3. Announcements from Acting Dean, David Vanko
 - a) New Programs:
 - BS in IT. Approved by Senate on 10/5; now goes to MHEC and BOR
 - BTPS in Construction Technology. Continuing to work on this fall, for the School of Emerging Technology. Articulation with community college programs.
 - TU Field Station in Monkton. Soon to pick a Director; activities have begun; spring 2010 grand opening.
 - b) New Opportunities:
 - Towson University Center for STEM Excellence – Columbus Center, Inner Harbor
 - Baltimore Excellence in STEM Teaching - \$1M NASA earmark
 - Southside Academy STEM PDS school in Cherry Hill
 - c) Items being discussed at Deans' Council
 - Budget cuts – another \$2-3M coming; we desire to have as much transparency as possible when making decisions; there is a role for the Chairs' Council, the College Council, and the Dean's Office; several guiding principles:
 - Protect our revenue generators
 - Nurture our principal programs
 - Protect faculty positions
 - Consider elimination of nonessential operations IF they save substantial money
 - Consider mergers
 - Faculty absences from campus – according to the Faculty Handbook, all faculty absences, especially if they entail missing classes, are to be cleared with the Department Chair; absences exceeding the equivalent of one week must be approved by Dean and Provost

- Furloughs – some issues have arisen regarding meeting classes; whether workman's compensation is in effect on a furlough day that a faculty member works (it is); and whether faculty members want to use the suggested AAUP email autoreply.
- Regent's Awards – Oct. 21 due date
- President's Award for Distinguished Service – Oct. 30 due date
- Harford Campus building: design features are to be decided by end of this year
- Diversity Action Committee – Dr. Roland Roberts will represent the FCSM

4. New Business

- a) University Senators have been formally invited to attend College Council meetings
- b) If there are topics you would like the College Council to address, please convey them to an executive committee member prior to the first Friday of the month
- c) Usage possibilities for the future science annex to Smith Hall:
 - Ryan Sours compiled a summary of current Smith Hall space usage and a summary for the future annex, which is proposed to have 34,564 net assignable square feet. He asked the Council to address the ultimate usage goals of a new facility while considering the projected growth of FCSM during the transition, the logistics of moving sensitive equipment multiple times, and the loss of space during the two stage back renovation of Smith Hall.
 - The annex could be set up as a multi-departmental high tech "core facility" to house the most sensitive and shared equipment, predominantly used for research
 - (i) Benefits
 - This model would limit number of times needed to move sensitive equipment
 - Building would draw potential students and faculty as an impressive visual representation of scientific research at TU
 - Lab space in this facility could be dynamic, i.e. assigned to researchers based on their current needs, thus maximizing space usage at all times
 - (ii) Drawbacks
 - A "core facility" with dynamic lab space would require the hiring of additional staff to maintain the equipment
 - As a teaching university, we must balance having a new high tech research facility with the appearance of older classrooms and teaching labs, though Smith Hall will be undergoing renovations
 - A consultant will be brought in to ask for feedback from FCSM faculty and to aid in final building plans
 - Open hearings will be held in Smith Hall for those who will be impacted by the transition
- d) Publication Tracking
 - As previously voted on by the College Council, each department is requested to submit a list of peer-reviewed publications and professional presentations to the Dean's office at the end of each academic year.
 - The concern that publication information has not been consistently submitted for tracking by FCSM was raised
 - Suggested solutions included:
 - Publication info should be incorporated into Annual Report; report-building software could be used to simplify this task
 - Promotion and Tenure committees could participate in publication by cutting-and-pasting publication info since faculty have already submitted it to them
 - Faculty should submit publication information directly to the Dean's office directly as it is not a time consuming task
 - A memo including the preferred format for publication tracking will be distributed to department chairs

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45pm.

Respectfully submitted by A. Mickey Dehn, 2009-2010 Recording Secretary