

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:** Honi Bamberger, Gail Kaplan; **Physics, Astronomy, & Geosciences:** Rajeswari Kolagani, Vera Smolyaninova; **At Large:** Susan Gresens (Biological Sciences), Angel Kumchev (Mathematics); **Students:** Michael Davis (Physics, Astronomy, & Geosciences), Joe Norris (Biological Sciences)

FCSM Department Chairs

FCSM Secretaries – Please post one copy

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

The FCSM College Council met in SM 306, at 1:30 p.m. on April 4, 2008; Vonnie Shields, Council Chair presiding.

Attendance: David Vanko, Howard Kaplon, Sarah Haines, Vonnie Shields, David Larkin, Ryan Sours, Kathy Wang, Honi Bamberger, Rajeswari Kolagni, Vera Smolyaninova, Susan Gresens, Angel Kumchev, Michael Davis, Joe Norris

Absent: Gail Kaplan and Harry Zhou (Council Chair notified in advance)

Guest: Jay Zimmerman

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

1. The minutes from the March 7, 2008 meeting were approved, unanimously, without correction.
2. Announcements from Acting Dean Vanko
 - a. David Larkin's question about why Chemistry majors were not advised to take CHEM 110 was addressed.
 - b. 3rd quarter grant report – \$17.3 million in external funding so far this year for TU – we can be proud of the amount brought in by the FCSM.
 - c. The following FCSM successes were shared:
 - Biological Sciences has hired a new faculty member, Computer Science has hired three (and is looking for a fourth), Chemistry has hired two new faculty members, and Mathematics has hired two new faculty members.
 - Three members of the FCSM applied for and received \$3,000 each as CGSR Faculty Fellows to develop research grant proposals.
 - Applications for Fisher Scholarships have been read and ranked. Last year four scholarships were given. This year it's been requested that eight be given out. These scholarships are used primarily to entice freshman to attend TU, but should money be left over it can be offered to current students.
 - d. The project account agreement for the Fisher Endowed Chairs describes the awards as "rotating between Biological Sciences; Chemistry; and Physics, Astronomy and Geosciences for three-year terms." The College Council agreed that this statement should not be taken to indicate that the awards must always rotate in sequence. For example, currently, with one awardee from each of Biology and PAGs, this does not necessarily mean that the next award must come from Chemistry. Instead, the desire of the Council is for the most deserving applicant to receive the award, with a balanced sense of "rotation" being achieved on average, over time.

- A Bachelor of Science in IT program is being submitted to the MHEC. This will be a daytime program for students.
- A biotechnology track is being considered for the MB3 program. Dr. Jim Saunders is leading this effort.
- The second Advisory Board meeting will take place on April 16th.
- End of the year funds allocated for AY 2007-2008 have been given to different departments to fund needed purchases.
- FY2009 Fisher Endowment Funds will be made available, in July, to those who will be awarded grants. Requests are being ranked now by the Dean and the Chairs' Council
- Talk continues about developing a School of Emerging Technology.

3. Announcements from College Council Chair, Dr. Vonnie Shields

- a. The electronic election system developed by Sungchul Hong has been completed. This will be tried out, by Council members at the end of the May 2, 2008 FCSM College Council meeting.
- b. Council Chairperson Shields has appointed a Strategic Plan subcommittee consisting of Angel Kumchev, Harry Zhou, and Ryan Sours. This subcommittee was charged with compiling the reports into one document, checking for unnecessary duplication and highlighting changes from the current Strategic Plan.
- c. All strategic plan subcommittees need to send their changes to Raj Kolagani, Corresponding Secretary, - by April 11, 2008. These will be forwarded to the above appointed subcommittee by April 14, 2008. This subcommittee has until April 25, 2008 to send Honi Bamberger, Recording Secretary, the entire reviewed document. Members of the FCSM College Council will then get this document prior to the May 2, 2008 meeting.

4. Discussion Items

- a. A discussion about promotion took place.
- b. As per a request from Provost Jim Clements that Council members provide him with a list of characteristics that a Dean should have, the Council discussed the need that this person balance the importance of teaching with research, bring coherence to the college, and be mindful of the five goals already outlined by Dean David Vanko. Vonnie Shields asked that additional suggestions be sent to her before April 25th.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Honi J. Bamberger, Recording Secretary
FCSM College Council