

**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 YR 7800, room 459 at 1:30 p.m. on May 2, 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, Phuoc Ha, Vera Smolyaninova, Susan Gresens, Michael Davis, Joe Norris, Lynette Plenderleith

**Absent:** Gail Kaplan, Rommel Miranda, Angel Kumchev Harry Zhou (Council Chair notified in advance)

The FCSM College Council was called to order at 1:40 p.m. by Dr. Vonnie Shields, Chair.

1. The minutes from the April 4, 2008 meeting were approved, unanimously, without correction.
2. FCSM Council members introduced themselves so that newly elected members could meet everyone. Vera Smolyaninova and Joseph Norris were thanked for their service on the Council.
3. Announcements from Acting Dean Vanko
  - a. Original projection of 500 new FTE for Fall 2008 may now be as many as 800.
  - b. FCSM hiring during 2007-2008 academic year has included:
    - i. Biological Sciences – two new faculty hired.
    - ii. Chemistry - two new faculty hired.
    - iii. Mathematics - two new faculty hired.
    - iv. Computer Science - five new faculty hired.
    - v. PAGS – search has not provided a new hire.
    - vi. Forensic Chemistry - interviews in progress.
  - c. STEM steering committee, co-chaired by Kate Denniston and Don Thomas has met twice. A September event is being planned to share outreach efforts and brainstorm new ways to attract students.
  - d. A continued FCSM initiative is to increase the number of secondary science and mathematics education graduates.
  - e. The Hackerman Academy Saturday Science events continue to be a huge success.
  - f. Towson University received \$600,000.00 for STEM and the Fisher College of Science and Mathematics is asking for ideas on how to most effectively use this money.
  - g. Both the Fisher College and the entire University are doing well with acquiring grants. The Fisher College has already exceeded our average of \$1.4 million per year; and is now over \$2 million.

- h. Dean Vanko asked the FCSM Council members to share reasons why faculty submit grant proposals. Members discussed:
    - i. Scientific curiosity.
    - ii. Getting money for needed materials.
    - iii. Getting additional income, particularly in the summer months.
    - iv. Wanting to "make a difference" in their chosen field.
    - v. Means for getting promotion and tenure.
  - i. Decisions pertaining to the proposals written for the Fisher Endowment Funds will be made by the FCSM Dean, Associate Dean, Vonnie Shields, five Department Chairs and two Program Directors.
  - j. The number of Fisher scholars has increased to nine.
  - k. The FCSM Advisory Board has had two meetings.
  - l. Other initiatives in the FCSM included the School of Emerging Technologies: security, high spend communications, gaming, as well as other new technologies.
4. Announcements from College Council Chair, Dr. Vonnie Shields
- a. The electronic election system developed by Sungchul Hong has been updated and completed. This will be tried out, by Council members at the first FCSM College Council meeting in the fall term (September 5, 2008).
  - b. Council Chairperson Shields reported that replacements have been made for all members coming off of FCSM committees.
  - c. Council Chairperson Shields reported that all suggestions for the qualities needed for a new Dean were communicated to Provost Jim Clements.
5. Discussion Items
- a. The strategic plan subcommittee, Harry Zhou, Angel Kumchev, and Ryan Sours went through the changes that were made to the plan. Wordy paragraphs were eliminated.
  - b. Dean Vanko asked the Council to give a grade to the college. A brief discussion ensued.
  - c. Topics for next year's meetings were brainstormed. These included:
    - i. Inviting Terry Hall and the STEM student leaders to a meeting.
    - ii. Inviting someone from the Writing Center to talk about their role on campus.
    - iii. Discussing diversity on campus and in the FCSM in particular.
    - iv. Inviting someone from the Academic Achievement Center.
6. Election of new officers took place:
- |                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| FCSM Chair              | Vonnie Shields  |
| FCSM Vice-Chair         | Ryan Sours  |
| Recording Secretary     | Honi Bamberger (Lynette Plenderleith during sabbatical leave) |
| Corresponding Secretary | Phuoc Ha  |
7. Phyllis Brown will send out the meeting schedule for the 2008-2009 academic year.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Honi J. Bamberger, Recording Secretary  
FCSM College Council