

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:** Anne Marie 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

September 18, 2009

The FCSM College Council met in Smith Hall, room 306, at 1:30 p.m.; Ryan Sours, acting Chairperson presiding.

Attendance: David Vanko, Howard Kaplon, Sarah Haines, Harald Beck, Ryan Sours, Yuanqiong Wang, Siddarth Kaza, Honi Bamberger, Rajeswari Kolagani, Phuoc Ha, Brian Fath, James Saunders, Anne Marie Dehn, Derek Morgan

Absent: Gail Kaplan, Alan Pribula – both notified Council in advance

1. Meeting called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Acting Chair, Ryan Sours. Council was welcomed and introductions were made.
2. Minutes from the May 8, 2009 meeting were approved unanimously.
3. Announcements from Acting Dean, David Vanko
 - a. New Programs:
 1. The MS in Applied Physics, a Professional Science Masters program (our second, the first is Forensic Science);, has been approved by the Board of Regents and MHEC.
 2. A BS in Information Technology was approved by the FCSM and is now waiting for Senate and University approval.
 3. With workforce needs in mind, a new program in Construction Technology is being proposed. This will likely be offered through the School of Emerging Technology. This undergraduate program would be for those students coming in with an AA degree from a community college.
 4. Towson University Field Station at Camp Running Bear, in Monkton, Maryland – we hope to soon to pick a Director. Activities have begun there and a Spring 2010 grand opening is being planned.

b. New Opportunities

1. Towson University Center for STEM Excellence – at the Columbus Center, Inner Harbor – 6 staff people coming to TU from UMBI will continue to be “housed there” with a focus on outreach and teacher professional development. The plan is to develop the BEST project at this site
2. Baltimore Excellence in STEM Teaching (BEST Project) - \$1 million NASA earmark, will provide support (professional development, research experiences, and outreach to classrooms for 12 STEM teachers in this highly visible program. The plan is to develop this BEST project at the above Towson Center for STEM Excellence.
3. Southside Academy STEM Professional Development School (PDS) school in Cherry Hill – Dean Ray Lorion and Dean Vanko hope to work more with this school to develop a strong Environmental Science program.

c. New Leadership

1. Dean Vanko met with Provost Marcia Welsh, was given a tour of the FCSM facilities, and met with some faculty and staff.
2. New opportunity for leadership – President Caret’s office will begin asking for input for the next strategic plan, since TU 2010 comes to an end.

- d. Should senators who represent FCSM be invited to FCSM College Council meetings? It was decided that the Corresponding Secretary would invite them to meetings

4. New Business

a. Election of new officers

1. Ryan Sours was nominated and ran unopposed. He was unanimously elected as the new Chair of the FCSM College Council
2. Honi Bamberger was nominated and ran unopposed. She was unanimously elected as the Vice-Chair of the FCSM College Council
3. Anne Marie Dehn was nominated and ran unopposed. She was unanimously elected as the Recording Secretary of the FCSM College Council
4. Rajeswari Kolagani was nominated and ran unopposed. She was unanimously elected as the Corresponding Secretary of the FCSM College Council.

- b. Ryan Sours asked the Council to suggest focus topics for the FCSM Council for the year. The following were discussed as possible areas for the Council to focus attention on during the monthly meetings:

1. Inviting Provost Marcia Welsh to a November or December meeting where topics sent to her ahead of time could be discussed. Some of these might include asking her for her thoughts on:
 - a. Teaching loads
 - b. Research/teaching /service responsibilities
 - c. Tenure and early tenure
 - d. Defining Towson University as either a Metropolitan University, having many service opportunities in the community versus seeing the University as a more research intensive University.
 - e. View of the Boyer Model
 - f. Over-reliance on adjunct faculty for teaching

2. Invite Don Thomas to share an update on the Hackerman Academy
3. Invite Dr. Mary Stapleton, director of UMBI - during the Spring term
4. Building issues
 - a. Extension to Smith Hall
 - b. Renovation of existing Smith Hall
5. STEM initiatives
6. Needs for new college staff positions College-wide summer research symposium
7. Travel funds
8. College-wide tracking of publications
9. College-wide printing facility
10. Independent research projects, and how to get credit for these in terms of teaching load
11. Student evaluations – should all departments be using the same instrument, as is done by the College of Liberal Arts? Possibly invite new Asst. VP for Assessment to discuss future assessment plans and opportunities.
12. Talk with colleagues in Department to find out whether there are additional ideas for topics to be discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:25.

Respectfully submitted by

Honi J. Bamberger, 2008-2009 Recording Secretary