

College Council Meeting Minutes
FISHER COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS
1:30 – 3:30 p.m., May 8, 2026

Voting Members Present:

Biological Sciences: Daniel Caetano and Vonnie Shields; **Chemistry & Forensic Science:** Nicole Carbonaro (Vice-Chairperson) and Shannon Stitzel (Chairperson); **Computer and Information Sciences:** Weixian Liao and Nam Nguyen; **Mathematics:** Kimberly Corum and Na Zhang; **Physics, Astronomy, & Geosciences:** Parviz Ghavamian and Jia-An Yan; **Teaching Professors and Clinical Faculty:** Miriam Parnes; **STEM Education:** Kristin Frank; **Staff:** Hannah Berry (Co-secretary) and Jennifer Streb (Co-secretary); **Students:** Kamiya Plummer (Biology; Undergraduate), Urja Desai (Forensic Science; Graduate)

Non-Voting Members Present:

Ex-Officio: Dean: Matthew Nugent; **Associate Dean:** Chris Salice; **Associate Dean:** Ming Tomayko
Visitors: Denise Hayman, Howard Kaplon, William Shipley,

1. Approval of the minutes of April 10, 2026 FCSM Council meeting.
 - A. The minutes were approved with unanimous consent.
2. Announcements and remarks from Dean Nugent
 - A. The Forensics PhD program is moving forward. The goal is to have a program open to accept students to start in Fall 2027.
 - B. Announcements and remarks from Associate Dean Chris Salice
 - C. Announcements and remarks from Associate Dean Ming Tomayko
 - D. Highlights from FCSM Departments and Constituencies
 - 1) Chemistry and Forensic Science – Accolades, Achievements, and Announcements
 - a. Courtney Thomas has been promoted to Clinical Associate Professor effective Fall 2026.
 - b. Sydney Braithwaite (BS in Forensic Chemistry, 2025) received an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship to support her PhD studies at UMBC.
 - c. Several FRSC and FCHM students attended the American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) meeting earlier this semester in New Orleans.
 - d. Mark Profili served on a panel of international experts at the AAFS meeting on the discussion topic: Criminalistics Gone Wild – Does Technology Kill the Truth?"
 - e. Wendy Spekis graduated from the Building Bridges Across Maryland staff professional development program.
 - f. Professional Ethics for Scientists Study Abroad will be offered again in Minimester 2027. Students can learn more by visiting the program website: <https://towson-horizons.symplicity.com/index.php?s=programs&mode=form&id=439e910f514dedffaccc4be92a22d01a&au=&ck=>

3. Standing Agenda Items
 - A. Senate update/communications
 - B. **Dr. Tina Kelleher**, President of the TU AAUP Chapter, announced a “Last Stretch” yoga event, at BU, scheduled for **May 13**. A reminder message will be sent to the faculty.
 - C. **Dr. Clare Muhoro**, Vice President for Academic Affairs, reported a **record-high enrollment**, with more than **3,580 new freshmen** having submitted enrollment deposits. She also noted that the revised **ART document** is currently under review by the **Office of General Counsel**, with an updated version expected to be distributed later in the week.
 - D. **Dr. Joyce Garczynski**, Academic Senate Chair, reminded faculty that **Dean evaluations remain open**, noting that participation has been low to date.
4. Ongoing Issues/Initiatives/Old Business
 - A. Nominees for the Executive Committee of the 2026-2027 FCSM College Council Executive Committee were discussed and voted on. Chairperson will be Vonnice Shields. Vice-Chairperson will be Parviz Ghavamian. Co-Secretaries will be Alan Jackson and Jennifer Streb.
5. Ongoing Issues/Initiatives/Old Business:
 - A. Student Success Summary and Recommendations
 - 1) A report was submitted to the FCSM Dean’s Office summarizing findings and recommendations.
6. Visit from Rajeswari Kolagani
 - A. Updates from TU International committee (TUIC) & the library committee
7. Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Hannah Berry and Jennifer Streb