Minutes of the May 10, 2019 FCSM College Council Meeting.

The FCSM College Council met in Smith Hall, Room 306 at 1:30 p.m. with Dr. Jennifer Scott, Chairperson, presiding.

**Member Attendees:** FCSM: David Vanko; Biological Sciences: Mark Bulmer, Angela Cox; Chemistry: Ana Maria Soto, Shannon Stitzel; Computer and Information Sciences: Josh Dehlinger; Physics, Astronomy, & Geosciences: Wendy Nelson, Jennifer Scott; Mathematics: Yunwei Cui; At large: Kelly Elkins (Chemistry), Elizabeth Goode (Mathematics)

**New Member Attendees:** Rika van Huizen (Chemistry), Joyram Chakraborty (Computer and Information Sciences)

**Absent:** Sergiy Borodachov (Mathematics), Scott Hilberg (Computer and Information Sciences), Steve Blama (Graduate Student, Physics), Saraubi Harrison (Undergraduate Student, Computer and Information Sciences)

**Guests:** Howard Kaplon (FCSM), Will Carosella (Classroom & Computer Labs Technology Coordinator, Office of Technology Services)

Chairperson Jennifer Scott called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

1. **Approval of minutes from the April 12, 2019 FCSM College Council meeting**
   
The minutes of the April 12, 2019 meeting were approved with three abstentions.

2. **Introduction of New Members**
   
   New members, starting their College Council terms in the Fall of 2019, include Joyram Chakraborty (Computer and Information Sciences), Rika Van Huizen (Chemistry) and Pamela Lottero-Purdue (Physics, Astronomy and Geosciences). Jo and Rika attended today’s meeting and were introduced to the council.

3. **Announcements and remarks from the Dean**
   
   **3.1. Chairs & Associate Dean:** Ryan Casey (Chemistry), Laura Gough (Biological Sciences), Mike O’Leary (Mathematics) and Dave Schaeffer (Physics, Astronomy and Geosciences) were reappointed as department chairs for new 4-year terms. Sid Kaza (Computer and Information Sciences) has 3 years of his term left. Vonnie Shields will be continuing as Associate Dean.

   **3.2. Elkins Professor nominations were due to the Provost April 5, 2019.** We suggested Laura Gough and her file was completed and forwarded to the Board of Regents in April.
3.3. Request for Proposals for the FCSM General Endowment funding was released in April. The Dean’s office received requests totaling $211,000, with about $150,000 available.

3.4. Applications for the Fisher Endowed Chair in the Biological and Physical Sciences and the Fisher Endowed Chair in the Mathematical and Computing Sciences are due by June 3rd.

3.5. Dean Vanko participated in various University Committees and Grant submissions, including:

3.5.1. Chaired the Associate Vice President for Administration & Finance search.
3.5.2. Chaired the Interim Dean of Graduate Studies search.
3.5.3. Participated in the Assistant Provost for FACE (Faculty Academic Center for Excellence) search.
3.5.4. Participated, with Cindy Ghent, in the NSF AGEP grant: “The AGEP Alliance State System Model to Transform the Hiring Practices and Career Success of Tenure Track Historically Underrepresented Minority Faculty in Biomedical Sciences.”

3.6. Dean Vanko toured the New Science Complex with the President.

3.7. Provost Perreault is going to submit a request to the boards of Regents to charge differential tuition for students in certain academic programs. The differential tuition would apply to 300 and 400 level courses in certain programs and the additional revenue would go to those programs. Part of the revenue would go to support financial aid for students in those programs, and part of the revenue would be used for hiring additional faculty members in those programs. Differential tuition is already charged at other USM institutions.

3.8. Saraubi Harrison, our undergraduate student representative in the college council, was featured in TU news. Saraubi completed a software engineering internship at General Dynamics and participated in a Grace Hopper Celebration Conference. After graduating from Towson this May, Saraubi will move to Seattle to work for Amazon.

4. Announcements from the Council Chairperson

4.1. Applications for the NASA Maryland Space Grants are due next week. These scholarships are designed for students whose career aspirations are relevant to aerospace and NASA. Also, one of the grant’s goals is to support women and underrepresented minorities. Applications can be filled out online and are due on May 15, 2019.

4.2. There is a program in Howard County entitled “Our Environment in Our Hands” that includes day-long outdoor environmental activities held at the Howard County Living Farm Heritage Museum. The program is looking for volunteers for May 15, May 16, May 21 and May 22.

4.3. The FCSM is hiring a program coordinator for Hill Lopes Scholarship Program. This program supports women in STEM careers. This program was previously hosted by UMBC. Towson University already has many faculty working to support women in science and plans to further develop a community of women scholars.
5. Updates from FCSM Departments

5.1. Biological Sciences: The department has received the results of their 7-year review, but they have not discussed the results yet. There are three searches for temporary positions underway. The department had initially decided to postpone permanent hires before moving to the new building, but they changed their mind for one position and are currently looking to hire a computational biologist. Barry Margulies will present a sabbatical talk about herpes virus’ treatments using biodegradable devices on Tuesday.

5.2. Chemistry: Marella Schammel, a student conducting research with John Sivey, received the first Goldwater Fellowship at Towson University. We have two searches coming up this summer for a lecturer in organic chemistry and for a visiting assistant professor. Several students are presenting at the Mid Atlantic Research Meeting, a regional ACS meeting. Several students participated in the poster session for CURE courses (HHMI lab courses that include research experiences).

5.3. Computer and Information Sciences: The department was re-designated as a National Center of Academic Excellence for cyber operations from NSA. The department is one out of only 20 in the country with this designation.

5.4. Mathematics: The department elected Michael O’Leary as department chair. The department is the recipient of three BTU partnerships.

5.5. Physics, Astronomy, and Geosciences: The department is in the process of completing the search for a biophysicist. They are currently in the process of making an offer.

6. Officer elections

6.1. Corresponding Secretary: The corresponding secretary attends the executive meetings on the first Friday of the month and contacts the people who the council wants to invite to speak at the council. Wendy Nelson was nominated for this position and was elected unanimously.

6.2. Recording Secretary: The recording secretary attends the executive meetings on the first Friday of the month and records the minutes of each council meeting. Yunwei Cui was nominated for this position and was elected unanimously.

6.3. Council Vice Chair: The council vice chair attends the executive meetings on the first Friday of the month and presides the meetings in the absence of the council chairperson. Ana Maria Soto was nominated for this position and was elected unanimously.

6.4. Council Chair: The council chair attends the executive meetings on the first Friday of the month, fills positions, coordinates Regents Awards nominations, presides over the meetings and prepares the agenda for the meetings. Kelly Elkins was nominated for this position and was elected unanimously.
7. Old Business

7.1. Regents Awards: Council members are requested to contact potential nominees for Regents Awards in their departments. Potential candidates include those who received college awards. It is recommended that we contact potential nominees now because if their application is chosen to go forward, they would have to put together an extensive application. The council nominates some faculty members but the council does not prevent anyone from nominating themselves.

8. Special Guest: Will Carosella

Council members visited SM 400, a room that was recently renovated to showcase the classroom technology that will be available in the new building. Will Carosella (Classroom and Computer Lab Technology Coordinator from OTS) highlighted some features of room SM 400, including:

- The room has 6 flat panel monitors (not projectors). These monitors don’t show glare and you can slide a white board on top of the main panel. The 6 monitors are tied together, showing the same display. However, you can connect devices to each screen. The main monitor is interactive, allowing instructors to draw over a power point lecture and save the drawing, like a smart board.
- The room is set up as a guided learning space while in the York Road Building, which the council visited in March, the room is set up for independently led group learning.
- The room is equipped with a Panapto Camera, which allows recording of lectures. This kind of recording allows students to search for specific words and find specific places in the recording, but it does not transcribe the class contents. Also, the class recordings cannot be downloaded.
- The furniture in the room is movable.

9. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ana Maria Soto
Recording Secretary