Minutes of the May 12, 2017 FCSM College Council Meeting.

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

Member Attendees: FCSM: David Vanko; Biological Sciences: John LaPolla, Jacqueline Doyle, Elizabeth O’Hare, Harald Beck, Pam Healey; Chemistry: Shannon Stitzel, Ellen Hondrogiannis, Kelly Elkins; Computer and Information Sciences: Michael McGuire; Josh Dehlinger; Physics, Astronomy, & Geosciences: Jeff Simpson, Cody Sandifer (for Parviz Ghavamian); Mathematics: Elizabeth Goode, Yunwei Cui, Xiaoyin Wang, Student Representatives: Graciella Gamboa (Undergraduate Representative)

Absentees: (All notified in advance) Sergiy Borodachov, Parviz Ghavamian, Shuhua Ma, Vonnie Shields, Nusrat Sharmin (Graduate Representative)

Chairperson Michael McGuire called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

1. Approval of Minutes
   The minutes of the April 14, 2017 meeting were approved; 2 abstentions.

2. Announcements from the Dean
   2.1. FCSM Commencement, Thursday, May 25, 10:00 am

3. Remarks from the Dean
   3.1. Congratulations to all of our colleagues who were tenured (9) or promoted to Professor (9) this year; particularly Senators McGuire, Ghavamian, and Beck.
   3.2. Thanks to the College PTRM Committee (Ellen Hondrogiannis, Chair) for their hard work.
   3.3. FCSM Top Three Focus areas for 2017-2019
      3.3.1. Student Success/Assessment
      3.3.2. Research and Scholarship
      3.3.3. Diversity and Inclusion
   3.4. The FCSM Chairs and Directors have suggested the creation of a new award for outstanding lecturer. A subcommittee led by Elizabeth O’Hare was formed to work on this over the summer.

4. Remarks from the Chairperson
   4.1. Welcome to new members of the FCSM College Council
   4.2. Thanks to members who are rotating off
   4.3. Update on University Senate
      4.3.1. The motion to approve the new policy for promotion of adjunct faculty will be brought to the next meeting of the University Senate.
      4.3.2. The motion to approve the COLA v. Merit resolution will be brought to the next meeting of the University Senate.

5. Updates from FCSM Departments
   Members from each FCSM department updated the Council on departmental news and activities.
   5.1. Biology: Lecturer searches were successfully completed; a $1M Howard Hughes Medical Institute “Inclusive Excellence” grant was received.
   5.2. Physics, Astronomy & Geosciences: Discussing merit and COLA. Asked committee not to support resolution as written since if there is no COLA then we should still take the merit. (Although it makes more sense that all get COLA.) Institution has freedom to allocate more merit from total COLA /merit allocated. PAGS followed up on Office of Undergraduate Research and Creative Inquiry funding. The Dean reassured the Council of the college’s commitment to undergraduate research, and that both Stateside and Endowment funds will continue to be invested in this area. A new Administrative Assistant for PAGS was hired. External review for physics is ongoing.
5.3. **Computer & Information Sciences**: Approval from curriculum committee for combined BS/MS in Computer Science. Approval for data sciences track. (Will offer new course in Big Data using new equipment. Still going through accreditation.)

5.4. **Mathematics**: Three new faculty hires were successfully completed.

5.5. **Chemistry**: Richard Preisler and Leetta Abner are retiring. Chemistry will announce retirement luncheons for over the summer. Received approval for starting the new search for Richard’s replacement. Department is currently reviewing their governance document. Barbecue for graduating seniors today is open to everyone. DARPA AMEBA Grant (799K) awarded to Dr. Devadas (CoPI) and Dr. Smolyaninova (PI)

6. **Old Business**

7. **New Business**
   7.1. Election of new College Council Officers
       7.1.1. Mike McGuire, Chair*
       7.1.2. Harold Beck, Corresponding Secretary*
       7.1.3. Jacqueline Doyle, Vice Chair*
       7.1.4. Recording Secretary will be nominated at beginning of next year’s meeting.
               *7 votes for, 0 votes against, no abstentions.
   7.2. The Council discussed candidates for the USM Reagent’s Award Nominations
   7.3. The Council discussed Strategies to reduce textbook costs

8. **Adjournment**
   The meeting was adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

Ellen Hondrogiannis
Associate Professor, Chemistry