Minutes of the November 11, 2016 FCSM College Council Meeting.

The FCSM College Council met on November 11, 2016 in 7800 York Road, Room 459 at 1:30 p.m. with Dr. Michael McGuire, Chairperson, presiding.

Member Attendees: FCSM: David Vanko, Vonnie Shields; Biological Sciences: Pam Healey; Chemistry: Shannon Stitzel; Computer and Information Sciences: Josh Dehlinger, Michael McGuire; Physics, Astronomy, & Geosciences: Jeff Simpson, Parviz Ghavamian; Mathematics: Elizabeth Goode, Sergiy Borodachov; At Large: Shuhua Ma (Chemistry), Harald Beck (Biological Sciences); Student Representatives: Nusrat Sharmin (Graduate Representative), Jessica Henley (Undergraduate Representative)

Absentees: John Lapolla (notified in advance), Ellen Hondrogiannis (notified in advance)

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

1. Approval of Minutes
   The minutes of the October 14, 2016 meeting were approved with one abstention.

2. Visiting Speaker
   Presentation by David Larkin and Joseph Topping, TU Retired Faculty Association (TURFA). The speakers introduced and explained the purpose of TURFA. The College Council discussed potential ways for TURFA to engage with the University.

3. Announcements from the Dean
   3.1. Friday, November 18th at 3:00 pm, Dr. Joel Moore (Physics, Astronomy & Geosciences) presents his Fisher Endowed Chair seminar, marking the end of his three-year term as a Fisher Endowed Professor. The talk is in Smith Hall, room 356, and will be followed by a reception at the University Club in the University Marriott.
   3.2. Happy Thanksgiving!
   3.3. Friday, December 9th, at 2:00 pm. – the FCSM Annual Fall Forum and Holiday Reception. Includes an introduction of new colleagues, faculty and staff awards, the State of the College Address, and food.
   3.4. Wednesday, December 14th, at 4:00 pm – the Campus Holiday Party, Potomac Lounge.

4. Remarks from the Dean
   4.1. The new Jess and Mildred Fisher Endowed Chair in the Mathematical and Computing Sciences will be awarded to two professors. The names of the professors are forthcoming.
   4.2. National Federation of the Blind – Youth Slam 2017, scheduled for July 23-29, 2016 (Sunday through Saturday); with educational programs for blind high school students scheduled for July 24-28, 2016 (Monday through Friday). Volunteers are sought to provide interesting STEM activities that are accessible to blind students.
   4.3. Title IX training is online and is required for all university employees (due November 30, 2016).
   4.4. CRASE (Citizens’ Reaction to an Active Shooter Event) training – multiple sessions are scheduled throughout the next year, and all are available on the CRASE training web page on Towson University’s web site.
   4.5. Needed: volunteer to serve as faculty advisor for the STEM Leaders student club.
   4.6. Faculty Outside Employment Forms – Academic Affairs is now requiring all faculty to complete these forms at the time they finalize their workload agreements. The Dean’s office must send a summary report to the Provost’s office each semester.
5. **Remarks from the Chairperson**  
5.1. The USM Regent’s Award Packet for Jonathan Lazar (Computer and Information Sciences) was successfully submitted,

6. **Updates from FCSM Departments**  
Members from each FCSM department updated the Council on departmental news and activities.

7. **Old Business**  
None

8. **New Business**  
8.1. Diversity Action Committee  
8.1.1. Vonnie Shields, Associate Dean attended a diversity conference at Johns Hopkins. She was impressed by their workshop and suggested that we hold a workshop for FCSM.
8.1.2. A website containing information regarding diversity job and other resources will be shared with all members of college council.
8.1.3. To attract qualified diverse candidates, search committees should use inclusive faculty position language, adopt a philosophy that embraces diversity, get a diverse pool of applicants, and avoid implicit bias.
8.2. Undergraduate Research Opportunities  
8.2.1. For students travel and research award proposals should be ranked according to merit. A competition will be held for the awards and the submission would be done electronically.
8.2.2. A protocol should be followed to ensure the proper treatment of the students and mentors.
8.3. Faculty Development and Research Committee (FDRC) Awards  
8.3.1. The FDRC awards are currently on hold as FDRC research funding is being planned.

9. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Nusrat Sharmin.  
(Recording Secretary)