

Minutes of the October 13, 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:** Jacqueline Doyle, Elizabeth O'Hare, Harald Beck; **Chemistry:** Ann-Maria Soto, Kelly Elkins, Shuhua Ma; **Computer and Information Sciences:** Michael McGuire; Josh Dehlinger (absent); **Physics, Astronomy, & Geosciences:** Parviz Ghavamian, Jennifer Scott; **Mathematics:** Yunwei Cui, Sergiy Borodachov; **Student Representatives:** Dawn Myers (Graduate Student, Mathematics), Claire Glenn (Undergraduate Student, Computer and Information Sciences)

Absentees: (notified chair in advance) Josh Dehlinger

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

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the September 9, 2017 meeting were unanimously approved with no abstentions (motion by Sergiy Borodachov, seconded by Harald Beck).

2. Announcements from the Dean.

- 2.1. Introduction of two new student members of the College Council (Claire Glenn and Dawn Myers).
- 2.2. Monday, October 23rd at 3:30: Provost's Office annual Budget Open Forum.
- 2.3. Monday, October 30th at 4:00: FCSM Faculty & Staff Award nominations are due.

3. Remarks from the Dean.

3.1. FCSM's top three focus areas for 2017-2020:

Student Success and Assessment
Research and Scholarship
Diversity and Inclusion

- 3.2. New Science building update: Bid Package #1 for \$25M to cover concrete foundations, geopiers, site work, etc., will go to the Board of Public Works in November. Bids for Package #2 (\$130M) are due at the end of November. We are working on raising additional private donations for the new science building. The Board of Public Works is a committee of 3; Governor, Comptroller, and Treasurer. TU President Shatzel will present the bid packages for the Board's approval on November 15th. The winning bid will be presented in March. Ceremonial ground breaking is planned for spring and will be attended by top state officials. A site plan was displayed to show where various operations will take place.
- 3.3. Faculty Academic Center for Excellence (FACE) Advisory Board nominations. This advisory board is being created to implement the creation of the faculty development center envisioned by TU President's task force. Four faculty names are to be chosen from each college, from which they will choose two. FCSM Task Force members were Suranjan Chakraborty, Sandy Spitzer and Cindy Ghent.
- 3.4. Faculty volunteers are needed for two short-term assignments to an Academic Integrity Policy Review Committee and a Student Absence Policy Review Committee. The names will be forwarded to the Provost's office.

3.5. Financial Year 2018 Fisher General Endowment project update: 11 proposals requested a total of \$308,000. The following 7 proposals were funded for a total of \$155,000:

- Synthetic organic chemistry research lab course
- Gliding mammals and echolocation
- Fusion facility for geological research
- Urban environmental research
- Astronomy research
- Cross-disciplinary chemistry/physics research
- SCADA lab

\$6.4M in extramural grants have already been received by the College this year. Previous record was \$6.3M at the end of a year several years ago.

3.6. From the FCSM Success Log. September 8, 2017: Dr. Ronald Hermann was selected by the Association for Science Teacher Education Awards Committee and Board of Directors as the 2018 recipient of the ASTE Award I – Level 1 (less than 10 years of career service): Outstanding Science Teacher Educator of the Year.

4. Remarks from the Council Chairperson

- 4.1.** Welcome to new student representatives: Dawn Myers and Claire Glenn.
- 4.2.** Update on USM Regents' Awards: We sent six packets for internal review. Four were selected to move forward by the university committee. They are Vera Smolyaninova (Research), Clare Muhoro (Public Service), Sidd Kaza (Teaching), and Pamela Lottero-Perdue (Teaching).

5. University Senate Update from Harald Beck).

- 5.1.** TU President Shatzel presented the annual report. During the next 7 years, \$700M will be spent on campus improvements.
- 5.2.** The University Senate discussed whether the President, Provost, and other administrators should be reviewed periodically by faculty to provide feedback.

6. Updates from FCSM Departments

Members from each FCSM department updated the Council on departmental news and activities.

- 6.1. Biology:** The Biology Department is beginning to search for a new Clinical Assistant Professor. Through the HMMI grant work, they are adopting Course-based Undergraduate Research Experiences (CUREs) in many courses.
- 6.2. Chemistry:** Search in Biochemistry. Found other locations to advertise to get more minority candidates. A Fisher Endowment proposal funded. Will have five research fellowships for students. Four – for chemistry and one – for Chemistry/Biology/Physics.
- 6.3. Computer & Information Sciences:** Were successful in accreditation of the Computer Science Cybersecurity program.
- 6.4. Mathematics:** Search is open for two positions in Mathematics/Applied Mathematics. Faculty seminar for graduate students is running this year again. Teaching seminar is running on some Fridays. Applied Mathematics Laboratory, which involves recruiting TU undergraduate and graduate students, is working successfully and has established sustained ties with local companies and government organizations.
- 6.5. Physics, Astronomy & Geosciences:** Search was conducted for a faculty replacement hiring. They will start reviewing applications next week. A seminar is to be held in November. Speakers from Howard county public schools. Topics to be discussed: the shift in the next generation's science standards, what they now learn differently, how to teach future science teachers. Further Information will be sent out.

7. Old Business

7.1. Discussion of evaluation and promotion of lecturers. (Cheryl Brown, Lecturer, Computer and Information Sciences)

The Council discussed disparities for lecturers who have been at the university for a long time. One of the main concerns that was raised was the lack of adequate family health benefits. Promotion to Senior Lecturer requires a SAP which are highly coveted and difficult to get. The Council Chair and Dean agreed to do some fact finding to see what flexibility exists in providing adequate health benefits without requiring a SAP.

Council members from each FCSM Department informed the Council on practices concerning evaluation of lecturers.

Computer & Information Sciences: The Chair, the Associate Chair, and the Student Services coordinator are responsible for merit review for lecturers. Student evaluations of teaching are used but there is no regular schedule for peer evaluations of lecturers. Lecturers are recommended for merit or no merit. There is no merit plus for Lecturers.

Biology: Lecturers are evaluated for merit/no merit as well. Peer class visits are scheduled every 3 years.

Physics, Astronomy & Geosciences: Class visits are scheduled for both lecturers and adjuncts during the first two years, then visits continue on some regular basis but not as often.

Mathematics: Department has 11 lecturer positions with one of them being split between two people and no senior lecturer positions. Lecturers are required to complete Part I of the Annual Review document. The merit level for the Lecturers is decided upon by the Department Merit-for-Lecturers Committee consisting of the Department Chairperson, the Assistant Chairperson(s), and one other tenured faculty member elected by the Lecturers.

Chemistry: Lecturers must have a peer evaluation during the first year, and at least once every three years thereafter. Merits are evaluated by the department Merit committee (consisting of four tenured/tenure track faculty and one lecturer) with the same procedure used to evaluate merits for tenured/tenure track faculty, no separate procedures to evaluate merit for lecturers only. Lecturers are recommended for merit or no merit.

8. Additional Business

Harald Beck: AAUP membership drive announced.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:25 p.m.