Natural Sciences Chairs Council

December 3, 2014

1:00pm – 2:53pm, BI-104

In Attendance: K. Fleming, T. Usher, D. Graham, A. Smith, M. Greer, M. Schultz, C. Stanton, B. Stanley, T. Rizzo, K. Voigt, M. Chao, P. Williams,

A. Hovannesian

1. **Approval of minutes for November 19, 2014** – Approved as distributed
2. **Informational Items:**
3. **Announcements by Chairs**
   * Dr. Greer announced that their department is in the process of changing the department name to Department of Public Health.
   * Lory announced that any of the chairs attending commencement on December 13, 2014 should arrive in the dance studio in the old gym by 11:30am.
4. **Announcements from administration**
   * The faulty search process will be discussed at the next provost and deans’ meeting on Wednesday, December 10, 2014.
   * Janelle Gilbert recently sent an email to the chairs seeking faculty members who may be interested in serving on a “GE Think Tank” committee. The chairs were asked to submit two names from their department.
   * The dean forwarded the Vista Program information sponsored by the Chancellor’s Office to the chairs. Proposals are due by February 20, 2015.
   * Dates for the chairs’ meetings for the remainder of the academic year are as follows:

* January 14 and 28, 2015
* February 11 and 25, 2015
* March 11 and 25, 2015
* April 8 and 22, 2015
* May 6 and 20, 2015
* June 3, 2015
  + The dean forwarded a request from the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences for a faculty member who is willing to serve on their college evaluation committee.
  + The application data is in for fall, 2015. First time freshmen and transfer applications are up.
  + As of now, the summer session will be state funded, but may still get funded by CEL. A decision will be made by January 5, 2015.
  + There are three programs for which an exemption to the 180 unit maximum requirement was sought: computer science, computer engineering and cyber security. These exceptions have not been granted. A report for each of these programs is due to the Chancellor’s Office by March 15, 2015. A brief discussion followed.
  + At the AAC, Dean Fiene announced that a new set of federal regulations are being proposed for credential students which could affect their financial aid. 70% of the current credential students would not be eligible under the new regulations. It is likely that the states will push back on the new regulations.

1. **Discussion Items:**
   1. **Scheduling update (Dr. Williams)** – Dr. Williams passed around an attachment showing current enrollment numbers for winter, 2015. The college is currently at 96.8% of target. Spring schedule build has concluded. Priority registration for spring, 2015 begins on February 15, 2015. Summer schedule build will begin on January 5, 2015. Fall schedule build will begin on March 2, 2015.
   2. **Development update (Mr. Duke Graham)** – Mr. Graham announced the following:
      1. Dr. Madeleine Jetter has been awarded a $3 million grant for four years contingent upon a 15% match in funding. A $150k grant from Toyota and a $75k grant from The David and Lucile Packard Foundation have been secured towards the match. Commitments for an additional $225K must be secured by June 30, 2015.
      2. SONY has been working with Larry Burns in the Career Center regarding possible internships.
      3. He will be meeting with Dr. Fischman on Friday regarding a grant.
   3. **Assessment update (Dr. Hovannesian)** – Dr. Hovannesian announced the following:
      1. She has had meetings with 49 of the 66 PAES. She reported that there are several scholars working on projects such as the Facebook page and a PAES app.
      2. She is tracking Adds and Drops After Census on a quarterly basis.
      3. Advising is still housed in three separate locations; Lorena Gomez from Nursing is on board and assisting with advising nursing students.
      4. Peer advisors will now be wearing purple colored shirts to make them recognizable on campus.
      5. Advising has made colored flyers that have been printed and will be distributed to departments to hand out to students.
      6. Outcomes were due on Monday. On January 12, 2015, she will be going in to Taskstream to look at the status of fall measures and findings.
      7. There are approximately 50 students currently participating in E-Portfolio. She showed an example of a student’s online portfolio.
   4. **Strategic Planning update (Dr. Rizzo)** – Dr. Rizzo announced the next Town Hall Meeting will be on January 21, 2015 from 1:00-3:00pm in the SMSU. SPAC is currently developing groups to work on the strategic goals.
   5. **50th Anniversary –** Following are the ideas presented from each department:
2. Geology – Conducting fault hikes and using portable X-Ray machines to check household items and toys for dangerous chemicals.
3. Health Science – Using Glo Germ and UV lights to show if how clean hands are after being washed, having people wear impairment (drunk) goggles, a USDA plastic food demonstration for healthy eating and proper portions, and displaying student research posters.
4. Nursing – Simulation Lab tours and showcasing masters’ students associated with Global Nursing.
5. CSE – Run robotics, game development and programming sessions.
6. Kinesiology – Have the DisAbility Sports Festival on the same day as the open house, university dance club presentation and faculty opening up their labs for tours.
7. Math – Dr. Chavez will do a math magic show and the math club will do some math games like math jeopardy.
8. Chemistry – The chem club will set up demonstration tables with kid friendly experiments, and faculty will give lab tours.
9. Physics – Conduct Observatory tours, provide lecture series, lab tours and provide social time for alumni
10. Biology – Identify an outside presenter to give a talk.
11. College – Host a college-wide alumni reception at the end of the day. The proposed day for the event is Saturday, October 10, 2015.
    1. **Budget –** The dean asked the chairs if they felt it would be useful the college were to compile a list of data to support budget requests. The chairs agreed a list would be useful. The dean announced that she, Renee and Dr. Williams continue to work through the departments’ carry forward submissions to get a better understanding of where each department is financially. The college received $900k from the provost as a result of one-time funding requests from last spring and she needs to determine how to best allocate the funding. Detailed budget information will also be presented to VP Freer and AVP Ahmed to give them a better understanding of the financial position of CNS.
    2. **Course re-design –** There are several funding opportunities for course re-design available. The dean asked the chairs if there were faculty in the departments who were interested. Each department has some faculty currently working on or interested in course re-design. A discussion followed.
    3. **Active Domain Directory –** The dean received answers to the questions the chairs asked at the last meeting and she emailed them to the chairs. The group is going to seek additional clarification on a few of the answers that were given.
12. **Other:**