Natural Sciences Chairs Council

June 27, 2022

1:00pm – 3:00pm

In Attendance: M. Chao, K. Cousins, K. Dajani, C. Todd, B. Haddock, T. Burch, G. Escalante, D. Rinebolt, S. McGill, S. Pantula, T. Valencia, R. Hernandez, D. Maynard

Dashboard Presentation – T. Carollo

Presentation of new dashboards available to assist in the planning of course schedules. Mr. Carollo asked the chairs to look over the new dashboards and provide feedback that will help them create a user guide for the dashboards.

Meeting Minutes – Minutes for June 6th were approved.

Announcements by Chairs

* Dr. Haddock reported that all is going well with the kinesiology summer classes.
* Dr. Haddock reported he has been busy working with Dr. Dabbs to help her prepare to take over as the department chair.
* Dr. Burch reported that the nursing students have been busy working on a new program in conjunction with Cal SOAP - in the hopes of educating middle school and high school students about the inner workings of what it takes to get into nursing school, what it takes to be a nursing student, and about entering the world of nursing.
* Dr. Burch reported that Dr. Claudia Davis has been elected chair of the Faculty Senate.
* Dr. Chao reported the Biology Department has been busy getting new equipment delivered and installed.
* Dr. Chao reported the interviewing process for their new ASC I has been completed and they are awaiting the background check to be completed.
* Dr. Dajani reported he has been busy working on getting students enrolled in classes.
* Dr. Dajani reported the ASC for their office has left and they are now in the process of looking to hire a new ASC.
* Dr. Todd reported that one of the newly hired faculty members has arrived and they are working on getting her office ready for the beginning of classes.
* Dr. Todd reported she will be leading a group of students on a trip to Mount Rainier in July where they will do research on glaciers
* Dr. Cousins reported the Chemistry Department has had a case of Covid infect one of their summer classes. One faculty member and 3 students tested positive for the virus. Discussion ensued about concerns of students not wearing masks in classes.
* Dr. McGill reported that the Health Science Department has completed their interviews for their ASC II position.
* Dr. McGill reported she has been busy working on the HSCI fall class assignment of faculty to sections.
* Dr. McGill reported the Physics Department has been working on getting offices ready for their new faculty member.

Announcements by Administration

* Ms. Valencia shared funding for the refinishing of the tennis courts has been arranged and the work can begin.
* Ms. Valencia also reported that all professional development late expenses have been submitted but they will come out of next year’s funds. Professional development funds will not carry forward from 2021-22 to 2022-23.
* Ms. Rinebolt asked chairs if they were agreeable to moving the September 5th chairs’ meeting (which is a holiday) to Wednesday, September 7th. It was agreed upon.
* Dr. Escalante reported that the Science Success Center advisors have been very busy attending the 1st time orientations that have been held. He added that they have been very successful at recruiting students for the new cohort of first time freshman.
* Dr. Escalante reported the Success Center has lost two counselors as Claudia and Maricarmen have resigned. They have however, hired two new senior advisors Darline Ramirez and Jasmyn McWells. They are waiting for HR to see the list of approved candidates for Jocabed’s position and then begin the search to hire her replacement.
* Dr. Maynard announced that there will be a 1 day bridge program for STEM student on August 15 and August 16 (students have a choice of dates.) He needs a representative from each department to participate in the event. He asked chairs to let him know who would be representing the department so that he can provide them the information they will need.
* Mr. Hernandez announced that the CNS Convocation event will be held August 18th from 2 to 4 p.m.
* Mr. Hernandez also reported that October 17th thru October 22nd will be Homecoming Week.
* Mr. Hernandez reported that he is working at planning a Sherpa talk with Ron Wasserstein, the Executive Director of the American Statistical Association and Robert Santos, the first Hispanic American to serve as the director of the U.S. Census Bureau.
* Dr. McGill reported that Thursday, June 30th is the go/no go decision date for the second summer session.
* Dr. McGill reported that the college is at 87% of target and the university is at 79% of target.
* Dr. McGill spoke to the chairs about issues she has encountered with supervision courses. There are students enrolled in multiple supervision courses with the same faculty member. It was decided that if a student is enrolled in multiple supervision courses they will need to submit the title of their research project.