Natural Sciences Chairs Council

April 3, 2019

12:00pm – 2:00pm, BI-104

In Attendance: S. Pantula, S. McGill, P. Dixon, S. McMurran, B. Haddock, K. Cousins, H. Qiao, M. Chao, C. Davis, T. Burch, K. Cato, D. Rinebolt, T. Valencia, R. Hernandez

1. Introduction of Roberto Hernandez
2. Dr. Pantula introduced Roberto Hernandez, the new Director of Administrative Operations and Marketing for CNS. Roberto then talked about his previous experience, areas of expertise and interest, as well as his desire to assist CNS in its future.
3. Approval of minutes

a. Minutes from the March 3rd and March 20th were approved

1. Informational Items
   1. Announcement by Chairs

* Dr. Cousins reported that the chemistry department is in the process of hiring Ken Makino’s replacement.
* Dr. Davis reported that the health science department is conducting a search to replace their ASC. They have also submitted a request to the provost to hire a faculty for the Nutrition and Food Science concentration.
* Dr. Chao reported the biology department has successfully completed their search for new faculty. Two candidates were chosen and both have accepted the offers. A search is currently in place to find a technician for the animal house. An offer to a candidate is in process.
* Dr. Haddock reported that the kinesiology department made offers to 3 candidates but only one accepted.
* Dr. Cato reported that he and Dr. Melchiorre are resubmitting their last year’s proposal for the Keck grant. He presented an overview of the use of drones in their research.
* Dr. McMurran shared that one of their faculty members, Jeffrey Meyer, has become a very popular speaker lately traveling to Hawaii, Germany and Korea to make presentations.
* Dr. Burch reported that nursing has hired one new faculty member as well as a new ASC for the Palm Desert campus. Dr. Burch also reported that she had just returned from South Korea where some of our students gave presentations. The universities visited were Eulji University and Seoul Women's College of Nursing.
* Dr. Qiao reported that CSE is in the process of making offers to candidates for two positions. She also reported that she is working with Dr. McGill to add a new computer science lab space.
  1. Announcements by Administration
* Dr. Pantula reminded chairs about holding office/student hours in the Commons. Chairs were asked to let Dr. McGill know of any faculty who were going to do so.
* Dr. Pantula requested chairs look at the classes they are offering this summer and consider adding classes if needed. This is the last regular summer session before semesters start, and the university investing in student support for graduating students.
* Dr. Pantula reminded chairs that they need to make sure they have enough faculty to teach classes in the fall quarter. This includes FT and PT lecturers.
* Dr. Pantula reported that at the end of winter quarter, our college had 1,050 students with GPAs of 3.5 or higher. We also had 400+ students who had less than a 2.0 GPA. Half of those students did not register for classes in the spring quarter. Dr. Cousins inquired if Dr. Pantula had a breakdown of how many of those students were freshmen. Dr. Dixon asked for a list of the physics students who had a GPA below 2.0 so he could reach out to them.
* Dr. Pantula reported that he is reviewing the departments’ requests for new faculty for next year. The provost will receive all the requests and then the deans will meet with the provost to finalize the decision of how many positions the colleges will receive. Dr. Pantula informed that the academic affairs would like to have separate committees for each search in a given department. For example, if there are two searches one for computer science and another for computer engineering, then there will be two separate search committees. One will be for the computer science position and one will be for the computer science engineering position.
* Dr. Pantula reported that there are 20 cases of early tenure and promotion at the university this year. One third of those requests are from our college. Dr. Pantula reported that at the CSU Health Deans’ conference he recently attended there was a concern expressed about the high number of early promotions taking place. A suggestion was made that perhaps the process should include an external review. Dr. Pantula reminded the chairs of the importance of having guidelines for promotion in place for their departments. Dr. Pantula asked the chairs to please let him know their thoughts on adding the external review to their process. He also asked the chairs to make sure that their department has guidelines for promotion in place by the end of the calendar year. Some chairs felt that it would not be possible to meet this deadline.
* D. Pantula informed the chairs that he would like to meet with them and their ASCs to discuss budget issues the week of April 15-19. Deanna will contact the departments to schedule these meetings.
* Dr. Pantula also informed the chairs that he would like to meet with them to discuss the process of an annual evaluation. Deanna will contact the chairs to schedule the meetings.
* Dr. McGill reported that currently the college is at 104% of target and the university is at 97% of target.
* Dr. McGill reported that May 6th is the start of priority registration for summer classes. May 23rd open enrollment for summer classes begins and fall priority one registration begins. May 13th fall advising begins.
* Dr. McGill began the discussion of outstanding faculty awards. Chairs were sent copies of all applications prior to the meeting. Selection of the award recipients were to be determined at the meeting.
  + - 1. Nominations for Outstanding Teaching were:

James Ferrari (Bio) - Dr. Chao gave an overview

Cindi Fike (Nurs) – Dr. Burch gave an overview

Min-Lin Lo (Math) – Dr. McMurran gave an overview

* + - 1. Nominations for Outstanding Service:

Susan Addington (Math) – Dr. McMurran gave an overview

Nicole Dabbs (Kine) – Dr. Haddock gave an overview

Carol Hood (Phys) – Dr. Dixon gave an overview

* + - 1. Nominations for Outstanding Research:

Kim Cousins (Chem) – Dr. Dixon gave an overview

Erik Melchiorre (Geo) – Dr. Cato gave an overview

* + - 1. Nominations for Outstanding Lecturer:

Lisa Anderson (Bio) – Dr. Chao gave an overview

Angie Gagalang (Nurs) – Dr. Burch gave an overview

Lamies Nazzal (Math) – Dr. McMurran gave an overview

* + - 1. Nominations for Outstanding Alumnus:

Dr. Curtis Knight (Kine) – Dr. Haddock gave an overview

Dr. Paul Naik (Bio) – Mr. Fischer-Smith gave an overview

* Voting took place and the winners were:
  + Outstanding Teaching – Min-Lin Lo
  + Outstanding Service – Carol Hood
  + Outstanding Research – Kim Cousins
  + Outstanding Lecturer – Angie Gagalang
  + Outstanding Alumnus – Christopher Knight
* Nominations were made for Mace Bearer for this year’s commencement. Four faculty were suggested.

Dr. Peter Williams

Dr. Chris Freiling

Dr. Kay Zemoudeh

Dr. Lal Mian

* Dr. McGill had distributed a new rubric for determining the college level outstanding student award. She inquired of the chairs if this new rubric was acceptable to be used this year. There was no objection.
* Dr. Chao will recirculate the workload suggestions that were made by the committee. Dr. Pantula requested that this be finalized at the next meeting.
* A suggestion was made that there be a shared drive for all CNS documents. It was suggested that it be OneDrive and not Google.