Natural Sciences Chairs Council

September 5, 2018

1:00pm – 3:00pm, BI-104

In Attendance: S. Pantula, S. McGill, P. Dixon, S. McMurran, B. Haddock, Terri Burch, D. Maynard, C. Davis, S. Yang, H. Qiao, P. Orwin, T. Valencia, K. Shaw, J. Fischer-Smith, D. Rinebolt

1. **Approval of minutes** for August 15, 2018

Approved as distributed.

1. **Informational Items**:
   1. Announcements from administration

* Dr. Pantula reported that OSHA has visited 17 of the 23 campuses recently. They plan on visiting our campus soon. When OSHA shows up at one of your labs, please contact Environmental Health & Safety immediately. About 50% of the faculty need to complete the online safety training. Please make sure your faculty take care of this right away.
* Dr. McGill reported that for Fall Qtr. the University is at 99% of target and the College is at 99% of target.
* Dr. McGill distributed a list of courses that appear to be bottleneck courses.
* Dr. McGill announced that advising for Winter Qtr. begins October 22nd. Registration begins October 29th.

1. **Discussion Items**:
   1. Advising (Sastry Pantula)

* Dr. Pantula wanted to discuss the advising procedures of the different departments, as advising plays a big role in student success.
* Announced that there are two grants the College has that have student success as their focus:
  + A4US – the focus is on how we can serve students better
  + ISSUES X – funding to create faculty learning communities and evidence based teaching practices and developing chairs learning communities to assist faculty.
* Dr. Pantula asked each chair to give a brief presentation of their advising process for their department.
  1. Culture of our college (Sastry Pantula)
* Dr. Pantula announced we would discuss this more at a later time because the advising discussion took longer than he thought it would. He wanted to emphasize that going forward he would like to see:
  + No walls between the departments
  + Mutual respect
  + Assume the person has good intentions
  + Ceremonies to recognize and reward teamwork
* Dr. Pantula shared some of the commitments deans made which are applicable to our leadership team in CNS as well:
  + Support each other
  + Follow proper channels of communication
  + Speak with one voice – respect group decisions
  + Maintain confidentiality
  + Manage conflicts internally
  + Practice mutual respect and trust
  + Make time for celebration and address challenges
  1. GI 2025 Funding (Sally McGill)
* Dr. McGill reported that there are 3 sources of funding:
  + $150,000 is allocated for continued implementation of EO 1110
  + $100,000 is allocated to support students who require additional academic support in mathematics and/or English.
  + $100,000 is allocated to redesigning high enrollment courses with low success rates.
* Dr. McGill asked chairs to send suggestions to her and Dr. Pantula for the use of these funds.
  1. Upcoming Events (Sastry Pantula)
* Dr. Pantula announced there are several upcoming events that he would like to see the college be involved in.
  + Convocation (September 17th) Events are planned all day long. Dr. Pantula encouraged all faculty to attend the Convocation service at 9 a.m. in the Coussoulis Arena. The CNS Convocation will take place at 1 p.m. in CS 142.
  + New and Newly Promoted Faculty Luncheon on Saturday, September 29th.
  + Disability Sports Event (October 6th)
  + Hispanic Heritage week - September 18-24 and the Hispanic Heritage Month – September 15 –October 15
  + Homecoming Open House (October 27th) – The college has been asked to host a visitation and activity between 3-5 p.m. If you have ideas for this event, please send your suggestions to Dr. Pantula.