Natural Sciences Chairs Council

May 15, 2023

1:00pm – 3:00pm

In Attendance: J. Dodsworth, K. Cousins, K. Dajani, C. Todd, N. Dabbs, J. Yu, J. Torner, T. Tolar-Peterson, D. Rinebolt, T. Valencia, S. Pantula, S. McGill, D. Maynard, G. Escalante, R. Hernandez

Approval of Minutes – Minutes of the May 1, 2023 meeting were approved.

Announcements by Chairs

* Dr. Cousins reported that the Chemistry Department has a significant number of students going into graduate programs.
* Dr. Yu reported that the Nursing Department is interviewing candidates for their ASC1 position this week and their ASCII position next week.
* Dr. Dajani reported that the School of Computer Science and Engineering has been successful in hiring two of their candidates. They are waiting to hear from the third candidate.
* Dr. Todd reported that the Geology Department held an alumni gathering last Saturday. They will hold an end of the year meeting next week.
* Dr. Torner reported that the Physics and Astronomy Department has 2 new faculty beginning in the Fall.
* Dr. Tolar-Peterson reported that the Health Science and Human Ecology Department is continuing in their recruitment process. They have an open position in the nutrition concentration.
* Dr. Dabbs reported that the Kinesiology Department had their end of the year party at the Quakes game.
* Dr. Dabbs reported that the Kinesiology Department team won 2nd place in the Brain Bowl that was sponsored by the Provost’s Office.
* Dr. Dodsworth reported the Biology Department recently held their FEHN Award ceremony.
* Dr. Dodsworth reported that the department is currently searching for a plant biologist.
* Ms. Valencia informed the chairs that the summer contracts will go out this week.
* Ms. Valencia reminded the chairs to remind their faculty that Professional Development Funds will expire this year.

Announcements by Administrators

* Dr. Escalante reported that he has been busy working on finding available office space for new faculty hires.
* Dr. Escalante reported that for the June SOAR programs, Dr. Maynard will be on vacation so he will be assisting with those meetings.
* Dr. Escalante reported that the STEM Center will be opening a senior STEM position and asked the chairs for recommendations they might have for student advisors.
* Dean Pantula spoke briefly about the issue of space at PDC. Because of the limited amount of space there, he asked the chairs to speak with Dr. Escalante if they are thinking about opening a program out there.
* Dr. Maynard shared a spreadsheet with the FTF and transfer students SOAR dates/times.
* Mr. Hernandez spoke with the chairs about the upcoming commencement ceremony and encouraged them to encourage faculty to attend.
* Mr. Hernandez reminded the chairs of the upcoming leadership end of the year luncheon taking place on June 1st at the India Clay Oven.

Meeting with ASUA – Dr. Lesley Davidson-Boyd, Tanner Carollo, Kelly Campbell, Alison Wiles

* CNS chairs wanted to discuss the changes taking place in the advising of students.

Announcements by Administrators (continued)

* Dr. McGill reminded the chairs to watch the wait lists for classes in their department and do what they can to make space available for these students to enroll in classes.
* Dr. McGill reminded the chairs that fall pack enrollment will be next Wednesday, May 24th.
* Dr. Pantula spoke to the chairs about the budget challenges we will be dealing with in the next academic year.