Natural Sciences Chairs Council

July 6, 2020

1:00pm – 3:00pm, ZOOM

In Attendance: S. Pantula, S. McGill, M. Chao, K. Cousins, T. Burch, B. Haddock, J. Torner, L. Mian, T. Rizzo, T. Valencia, L. Guzman, D. Rinebolt, R. Hernandez

Announcements by Chairs

* Dr. Haddock reported that he is working on assisting international new hires in getting settled in and ready to begin instruction for fall semester.
* Dr. Torner reported that he is working on getting physics labs set up for fall semester.
* Dr. Guzman reported that she will be sending out information about advising to the chairs later in the day.
* Dr. Chao reported that he is working on getting approval for on campus labs for fall semester and that he is working on cleaning up the biology scheduling for PDC.
* Dr. Maynard reported that he is (as interim geology chair) working on the approval for on campus summer research labs.
* Dr. Maynard reported for the math department that they have been busy opening up more sections for the fall semester.
* Dr. Burch reported that the foreign trained nursing program is finishing up their training.
* Dr. Cousins reported that the chemistry department is working on scheduling labs for fall semester and research labs for the summer.
* Dr. Guzman reported that the advising center is busy seeing transfer students. Freshmen must attend orientation meeting and then they will be pre-registered for classes.
* Dr. Torner mentioned that many of the new students have not met the GE math requirement and thus are not able to enroll in science classes.
* Dr. Haddock noted that he did not see any kinesiology students enrolling after orientation which he believed should be happening.

Announcements by Administration

* Dr. McGill shared a spreadsheet showing enrollment and attempted enrollment for fall courses. Discussion took place on the pros and cons of adding more sections.
* Dr. McGill also spoke to the chairs about reassigned time. She asked if chairs would like the paperwork completed by the individual faculty member or if it should be done by the chairs. Discussion ensued on the pros and cons of allowing the individual faculty member submit the form. Dr. McGill asked the chairs to review the form and make recommendations for information to be included if needed.
* Dr. McGill presented a spreadsheet on the part-time faculty budget with different scenarios of funding and means of projecting the part-time faculty costs for each department. There was discussion on the different scenarios. Dr. McGill pointed out that we may not be able to do everything that we did last year. Dr. McGill said she would be available to assist with decisions concerning the approval/disapproval of assigned time.