Natural Sciences Chairs Council

September 19, 2022

1:00pm – 3:00pm

In Attendance: M. Chao, K. Cousins, K. Dajani, C. Todd, T. Tolar-Peterson, N. Dabbs, M. Jetter, J. Yu, D. Rinebolt, S. Pantula, T. Valencia, S. McGill,

Presentation on Faculty Affairs – Dr. Kevin Grisham

* Dr. Grisham gave an overview of the work done by FAD and inquired if there were any areas where they could do more to support the college.
* Dr. McGill inquired about who in FAD is performing what tasks. Dr. Grisham replied that they are currently working on a list to provide to the colleges.

Public Safety Presentation – Chief Godown.

* Chief Godown shared a power point presentation on an active shooter event and what you can do.
* There was discussion by the chairs on the problems they see in the design of the classroom doors to adequately protect students attempting to remain safely in the classroom – doors cannot be locked from the inside.

Announcements by Administrators

* Dean Pantula discussed with the chairs the new telecommuting policy that will roll out in the next few weeks. He reminded the chairs that the number one priority is that the offices must remain open during normal working hours (8 a.m. -5 p.m. M-F).
* Dean Pantula reminded the chairs that the spring reassigned time proposals are due September 28th. There was a discussion about the process of making the decision of approvals. Dean Pantula asked the chairs if they had a preference of 1) a subcommittee of chairs or 2) a subcommittee of faculty making the decisions on evaluating the proposals. The chairs said they would like the committee to consist of all 9 chairs making the decisions.
* Dean Pantula informed the chairs that the Professional Development Funds will now be funded 50/50 between the college and the department. Each department budgets at least $500 for each tenure track faculty, and the college will do the same.
* Dean Pantula announced that he would like to add a 20 hour dean’s fellow position and he would like to do this as soon as possible. He will send out a draft about the duties of the position and it will be a 2 course buyout in addition to salary during winter intersession, spring break and/or summer. This is good training for faculty interested in developing leadership skills.
* Dr. McGill reminded the chairs of the Curriculum committee meeting this Thursday, September 22nd from 3 to 4 p.m.

Approval of Minutes – minutes from the September 7th meeting were approved.