Natural Sciences Chairs Council

October 7, 2019

1:00pm – 3:00pm, BI-104

In Attendance: S. Pantula, S. McGill, J. Torner, D. Maynard, K. Cousins, H. Qiao, M. Chao, C. Fike, T. Valencia, T. Rizzo, B. Haddock, J. Fischer-Smith, D. Rinebolt, R. Hernandez

1. **Career Center Presentation**

Jennifer Carhart spoke with the chairs about internships.

1. **Informational Items**
   1. Announcements by chairs

* Dr. Fike reported that the nursing department is working with RCC and CSU Fullerton on an ADN to BSN program. Hospitals are now requiring 90% of its nurses to hold a BSN degree.
* Dr. Fike also reported that nursing department at PDC received a $63,000 grant to aid the homeless population. The funds will be used for data collecting equipment and to support faculty oversight of students at various street medicine sites. The street medicine program works to provide healthcare to those who might otherwise go to an ER for problems that can be treated alternatively.
* Dr. Qiao reported that the CSE department has been very busy preparing for the ABET team visit for accreditation that is rapidly approaching.
* Dr. Guzman reported that the CNS advising department is hiring more advisors. They are in the process of hiring a STEM counselor and a peer counselor. Dr. Guzman would like to set up meetings between the department chairs and the advisors. Dr. Guzman also reported that they have 8-9 workshops scheduled for the fall quarter.
* Dr. Maynard reported that the Geology department has only received two applications for its department chair position. He also reported the math department will begin reviewing the applications they have received for the three positions they are hoping to fill.
* Dr. Rizzo announced that they have received only two applications for the department chair search that they are conducting. The search for the environmental health position is going well.
* Dr. Rizzo also reported that Dr. Lal Mian had recently received the Presidential Honor Award from the Society of Vector Ecology.
* Dr. Haddock reported that the kinesiology department has received about 20 to 30 applications for each position they are looking to fill. He also reported that their two new faculty are off and running.
* Dr. Chao reported the biology department has received over 50 applications for the position they are hoping to fill. He informed the chairs that he had advertised the position on Twitter and that increased the number of applicants significantly.
* Dr. Cousins reported that the chemistry department has just completed the Great Office Move of 2020. The addition of new faculty and the lack of faculty offices have created quite a challenge for the departments.
* Dr. Cousins also announced that the S STEM program now has a new administrative assistant. Pamela De La Torre has been hired to replace Chelsea Hogan.
* Dr. Torner announced that the physics department has received 14 applications for its position of a computational physicist.
* Mr. Hernandez reported that quite a few of the department websites need to be updated. He also reported on efforts to create a faculty and staff list serve.
  1. Announcements from administration
* Dr. Pantula reported that this year we will have $100,000 for 20 searches. He reminded the chairs to focus on increasing the diversity of the faculty.
* Dr. Pantula reported that he has sent out a summary of the retreat to the chairs for them to review.
* Dr. McGill reported that the college is at 101% of target and the university is at 98% of target.
* Dr. McGill reminded the chairs that for summer 2020 there will only be one session since we will begin semesters in August 2020.
* Dr. McGill reported that a draft policy regarding office space has been sent to the Provost. She reported that FERP faculty may be required to share office space if necessary.
* Dr. McGill also reported that Academic Affairs will be setting aside about 10 offices in the Faculty Office building for shared use by FERP and emeriti faculty starting in Fall 2020 as a result of the moves in response to the opening of the new CGI building.
* Dr. Pantula requested that the chairs send him names of faculty who would be willing to work with the College of Education on creating a STEM lab.
* Dr. Pantula distributed a handout detailing the budget for the year. Discussion ensued. He reported that carry-over is not automatically returned from the Provost. We must submit a request to Provost of a plan to spend the carry-over. The Provost returned our carry-over this year, to support the activities listed in our plan.