

COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES AND MATHEMATICS
ACADEMIC COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
April 18, 2023

The meeting was held via Zoom.

Present: Lisa Hammersley, Tom Krabacher, Ron Coleman, Tom Savage, Craig Timmons, Julie Griffin, Richard Aguirre, Chris Taylor, Alex Pettitt, Yinfa Ma.

Meeting called to order at 9:00am.

1. Approval of the agenda as amended **Msc**
2. Approval of the minutes from April 4, 2023 **Msc**
3. Announcements:

Lisa Hammersley

- The D3 event is next week on April 26 at 5-7pm in the Alumni Center.
- The NSM Scholarship & Awards event is May 5 at 4-6pm in the Union Cottonwood Suite.
- Yinfa's retirement party is May 3 at 4-6pm at the Union restaurant.
- The SEE graduation event is
- The NSM Masters Hooding ceremony is May 17 at 5-8pm in the Union.
- Commencement is May 21. It is still unknown if it will be at G1 or on campus; depends on if Kings are still in the playoffs. The President's Office has received some angry responses from students and parents regarding the uncertainty of Commencement. This event is very special for the graduates so be mindful not to be insensitive if students express negative feelings about the situation.
- Budget outlook is still unknown but planning for cuts or a flat budget which, due to inflation, would be a cut.
- The Provost has put out the call for faculty hiring requests for next year. Only 14 are expected for the entire campus.

Yinfa Ma

- Deadline for D3 poster submission is tomorrow. Please show up early to set up your poster.
- Master's Hooding ceremony is May 17.

Ron Coleman

- The Create, Make and Share Faire is this Friday at 9am-1pm in the new Maker Space.
- There have been discussions on campus about ways to incorporate Chat GPT into curriculum.

4. Faculty mentorship working group policy proposal
 - "The NSM academic council recommends to the Dean that it will be the policy of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics that all newly-hired tenure-track faculty will be assigned by the department chair another faculty member from within the same department to serve as a faculty mentor. The role of the mentor will be to provide informal guidance for professional development. During the first semester of the appointment the mentor and mentee should meet regularly (at least monthly), and on an as-needed basis after the first semester. Costs incurred by the mentor for refreshments or lunch during mentoring sessions shall be reimbursed."

- Previous discussions included consideration of a cross-department mentorship program but the committee decided within the department would be a better model for NSM.
- Some departments may already be doing something like this and this will not supersede something that is already in place. For departments without any mentorship for new faculty, Lisa will present this as a strong recommendation as opposed to a required policy.
- This could be a challenge for smaller departments who may not have enough faculty willing to be a mentor.
- Lisa will discuss this with the Chairs and there will be follow up next fall to see how things are going.
- OFA should have a campus-wide mentorship program in place next year that NSM can choose to participate in.

10:00am adjourn