

COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES AND MATHEMATICS  
ACADEMIC COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
October 24, 2023  
TSC 5004

**Present:** Lisa Hammersley, Tom Krabacher, Ron Coleman, Craig Timmons, Julie Griffin, Richard Aguirre, Alex Pettitt, Justin Miller-Schulze, Michael Wright, Erica Orcutt, Matthew Schmidlein, Tom Savage.

Meeting called to order at 9:15am.

1. Approval of the agenda as amended **Msc**
2. Approval of the minutes from October 10, 2023 **Msc**
3. Announcements:

Lisa Hammersley

- Over 1,000 visitors came to campus on Sat. Oct. 14 for the Eclipse Viewing Event hosted by the Physics and Astronomy department.
- At the NSM Research Symposium yesterday, over 70 students presented their research posters from all NSM departments.
- The Dean's Office staff is in the process of planning the NSM holiday party. Date TBD.
- Next Tuesday Oct. 31 at 11:30am-1:30pm the Biology department is hosting the college's monthly DEI event. The title is Boo-ology and it will include a costume contest, picture booth and treats.
  - The November event will be hosted by Geography. They will host a trivia night and are gathering trivia questions so if anyone has any send them to the department Chair or staff.
  - Physics will host in February, Math in March and Geology in April.
- Global Entrepreneurship Week is coming up Nov. 13-17. There is a pitch contest on Nov. 6; please encourage students to participate.

Shannon Datwyler

- The plan for Hornet Launch in spring 2024 is to put together full 14–16-unit schedules for all first-year students. Course selections will be based off of what courses students are in for fall as well as the roadmaps. Shannon is working with the Chairs on reserve cap numbers. The HL students will be enrolled before priority registration for sophomores which should cut down on confusion about the reserve seats showing open for all students.
- Future Hornet Day is this Friday in the Union Ballroom at 10am-2pm.

Ron Coleman

- The NSM listening session with President Wood is next Tuesday at 8-9am.
- The Expanding your Horizons workshops were held last weekend. The program is aimed to encourage middle school aged girls to learn more about careers opportunities in STEM.

Matt Schmidlein

- Geography has a visiting scholar, David Kaplan, coming to give a talk on Nationalism on Nov. 7 at 5-6:30pm which is during Geography Awareness week.

Richard Aguirre

- Nov. 6-9 is Health Professions Week
- SEE will host a scholarship workshop on Nov. 14 at 4-5pm. They are looking for a computer lab so if anyone has one available, please reach out to Richard.

4. Finalize revisions to Bylaws

- The proposed changes to the Bylaws discussed at the last meeting included the following:
  - Scholarship and Awards Committee: change the college-wide vote for faculty reps to department appointments
  - Safety Committee: change the appointment of faculty reps by Academic Council to a department appointment and add a standing meeting time of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month at 2pm
  - Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee: add that nominees must provide a brief statement of interest, not to exceed 250 words.
  - Curriculum Committee: add the standing meeting time of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 3:00pm.

It was also proposed to reorganize the subcommittee info in the Bylaws for uniformity; first paragraph is the charge, then the composition, elections, and last is the standing meeting time.

**All proposed changes Msc**

5. AB656 CSU Doctorate Program

- President Wood sent out a message recently announcing that the Governor signed AB 656 which allows CSU campuses to offer independent PhD programs. This is only for professional and applied PhD programs and they cannot duplicate what is offered at the UC campuses. PhD programs at the CSU must be self-sustaining and would have different tuition and fee structure. The Board of Trustees can approve up to ten new PhD programs CSU-wide each year. This is similar to how the community colleges can offer 4-year bachelor programs as long as they don't duplicate any programs at the CSU. There is currently no word on Sac State offerings but it is unlikely to have any significant effect on any programs in NSM.

9:55am adjourn