

College of Arts and Sciences
Faculty Council Meeting
Friday March 22, 2024
2:00 4:00pm, Microsoft Teams

Present:

Tammy Allen; Jennifer Collins; Maria Corton; Jennifer Friedman; Jennifer Johnson; Meredith Johnson; Paul Kirchman; Edward Kissi; Magali Michael; Ryan McCleary; Toru Shimizu; Stephen Song;

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of 2/23/2024 Meeting Minutes. Moved to approve (M. Johnson); Seconded (Corton)
- III. Committee Liaisons Updates
 - a) Library Committee (Kissi): Nothing to report. The liaison reported sending an email to the committee chair but has received no response.
 - b) Diversity Committee (Novoa): absent at another meeting.

- b. Friedman and Serls worked on a draft proposal to address the CAS Faculty Council goal of mental health and food insecurity. The proposal would request support for both the USF Botanical Gardens as well as the USF Feed A Bull pantry.

Dean Michael expressed appreciation for the effort and noted that when the botanical garden was moved to CAS it was done so without a recurring budget. Thus, to allocate money for this purpose would require taking money from somewhere else. The Dean suggested partnering with other units on campus such as Student Affairs as there is a lot of money going into student health and wellbeing. The movers of the proposal will contact Cindy DeLuca and modify proposal accordingly. Collins also suggested discussions with sustainability particularly as they may enter a new college with Geosciences and CMS. If that happens, the Provost may have some money for this new college. Action item: Make revisions to proposal, resend to Council for any further comments, and then send to Dean Michael. Timeline for completion approximately one month.

- c. Dean Michael provided additional remarks. There are 4 ongoing searches for 4 deans (College of Business, Public Health, Engineering, CAS). As announced yesterday, there is also a new college being formed for AI and cyber-security, and computing.

money from the legislation has gone to paying back debts. CAS is trying to address salary compression little by little. 15 faculty were given increases to address compression over the last year. Collins noted the communication from the President that USF had been allocated 100 million in nonrecurring funds to recruit and retain top faculty. She noted that there needed to be a balance between bringing in new faculty with high demands while also addressing the needs of existing faculty. This is an employee morale issue. She noted that faculty morale needs to be reiterated with the Provost and asked Dean Michael if she could do so. This is not just a concern within CAS Dean Michael noted. This is a concern across colleges. Dean Michaels noted that a lot of money was spent on annual raises for faculty and staff.

- f. Friedman expressed appreciation to Collins for serving as Council Chair this year noting her leadership, professionalism, and organization.