



Meeting Agenda

Date: 1/22/2021

Location: Virtual

Time: 2-3:30 pm

Type of Meeting: *Regular*

Please Review/Bring: *Handouts will be distributed at the meeting*

Committee Members: Zia Nisani, Christos Valiotis, Jason P. Newman, Patricia Palavecino, Bassam Salameh, Dang Huynh, Lena Coleman, Matthew Rainbow, Osvaldo Larios, Jedidiah Lobos, Suda Anunta, Kaitlin Bessinger, Debra Feickert, Patricia Butterworth, Barbara Fredette, Maryam Sanei, Lauren Conroy

Items	Person	Action
1. Welcome & Introduction	<i>Zia Nisani</i>	*The new FT hires introduced themselves
2. Dean update	<i>Christos Valiotis</i>	*The dean updated everyone regarding the COVID vaccination situation and possible dates for vaccination. *The possibility of summer going virtual was discussed if vaccinations did not take place in time. *The faculty were informed that the LHE limits for summer are still being negotiated. *Fall semester and course offerings were discussed.
3. VP introduction	<i>Isabelle Saber</i>	*The new VP of Academic affairs dropped by and introduced herself to everyone. *It was asked if the Biology faculty (especially Microbiology personal) could take the lead and create a video or a talk on COVID and vaccination to dispel the myths out there. Dr. Salameh offered his assistance in this matter *Opening the school for face-to-face instruction issues was discussed. *She asked the faculty to provide input regarding campus opening to their Dean and Chair.
4. AS & AST degrees pathway	<i>Zia Nisani</i>	*Creating suggested Pathways for the AS & AS-T degrees was discussed. The Chair volunteered to take the lead and create a pathway and share with Dept. for input.
5. Biology Positions	<i>Zia Nisani</i>	*Biology Department was approved for 2 new FT positions in the area of Anatomy & Physiology.

6. Chair Vacancy	<i>Zia Nisani</i>	*The current chair term ends at the end of June and faculty were encouraged to consider running.
7. Spring Second 8-Week Course	<i>Zia Nisani</i>	*The possibility of offering an 8-week session during the Spring 2021 semester was discussed. We will be looking at possibly offering an Anatomy or Physiology section.
8. COVID Precautions and Return to Campus feedback	<i>Zia Nisani</i>	*Feedback will be solicited from faculty about the possibility of face-to-face instructions. The Dean mentioned that we already have input from previous discussions. Once updated, it will be sent to the VP of academic affairs.

Next Meeting: TBA