

## Minutes of the April 20, 2016 Meeting of the CELS Executive Council

**Call to Order:** A meeting of the College of the Environment and Life Sciences Executive Council was held at 1:00 pm at the CBL 435 conference room. Members present were Department Chairs English, Gold, Goldsmith, Gomez-Chiarri, Mitkowski, Opaluch, Sun, and Thompson; Associate Deans Veeger; Faculty Secretary Rice and *ex-officio* members Palmer, and Silvia. Associate Deans Rhodes and Sheely, Department Chair Fastovsky, and *ex-officio* members Morreira, and Van Buren were absent. Simon Engelhart represented GEO. Dean Kirby presided.

**Approval of Minutes:** *It was moved by Gold and seconded by Opaluch to approve the minutes of April 6, 2016 and they were unanimously approved.*

### Announcements:

#### Dean Kirby:

1) On April 28 the Provost's Office will be holding a forum for Department Chairs on the topic of review and reallocation of Graduate Teaching Assistantships to all the colleges. Chairs are urged to attend.

2) Congratulations went out to all CELS faculty who were up for promotion and tenure this cycle. All were successful.

3) Dean Kirby announced the successful hire of five new faculty members: Holly Putnam, Christian Floyd, Arnob Dutta, Matthew Ramsay, and Rachel Schwartz.

#### Other Announcements:

1) Associate Dean Veeger announced that there will be difficulty in offering chemistry labs during the summer session. The new Chemistry building will not yet be open and the chemistry labs at CCRI are undergoing renovation. Chairs are asked to be innovative and resourceful in finding solutions, particularly for graduating seniors.

2) Associate Dean Veeger again announced that full reviews of lecturers applying for promotion is due May 1; the annual review of all lecturers, including classroom assessments was due April 1. Departments are asked to have their agreed upon procedures for required annual/periodic reviews of all faculty in their departments to be submitted by May 1.

3) Judith Palmer announced that Dr. James Mittra of the University of Edinburgh in Scotland will be visiting CELS during the week of April 24 to 30 as part of the Distinguished Scholars Program in cooperation with the Provost's Office. He is a leading scholar in the field of valuation of the bioeconomy.

### College Elections:

Faculty Secretary Rice announced that the CELS Spring elections are concluded and announcement went out on the listserver. There are remaining vacancies on the URI Curricular Affairs Committee and the CELS Commencement Committee. Chairs were asked to consider potential nominees.

### Old Business:

There was no old business

**New Business:**

There was no new business.

**Adjournment:** *It was moved & seconded to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 1:35pm*

Respectfully Submitted:

Michael A. Rice, Faculty Secretary