



FO Minutes

September 20, 2019

Future FO DATES: **10/18 (10am)** and **11/22 (11am)**

- Dr. Liz Easley and Dr. Sarah Sellhorst from USC Lancaster handed out a brief survey regarding undergrad research at 2-year schools. Faculty filled out these surveys and returned them at the end of the meeting. Be on the lookout for an email from Drs. Easley and Sellhorst regarding findings and possible future collaborations.
- Dean's Report (see below)
- Academic Dean's Report (see below)
- Dr. Aziz: blood drive on Monday 11:00-3:00. All donors will receive a \$20 Walmart gift card. The bus will be parked in front of Truluck
 - 10/22: Dr. Lownes will offer a workshop on resume writing. An email is forthcoming.
 - 11/12: Dr. Maire-Afeli and Prof. Torres will present on the importance of acquiring a global education and additional detail on upcoming international trips
- Dr. Morris: System Affairs and Standing Clubs
 - Discussion on the possibility of Standardized Advising procedures across regional campuses (email with additional info is forthcoming)
 - The Garden Club is open to anyone on and off campus. Please contact Dr. Morris if interested.
- Prof. Emswiler: Art Club Info

- Art Club will decorate pumpkins for the fall season. An email with more info is forthcoming

In attendance:

Dr. Aziz
Lynn Edwards
Prof. Emswiler
Dr. David Hudson
Neill Hance
Gale Ashmore
Dr. Charles
Dr. Morris
Dr. Deb Hudson
Dr. Sixta Rinehart (remotely)
Dr. Pisano
Greta Bailey
Dean Catalano
Prof. Ivey
Kevin Torres
Dr. Lowell
Dr. Lowe
Dr. Fouts
Dr. Anderson
Dr. Schafer
Dr. Lownes

USC Union, Dean's Report, 09/20/19

Students

Enrollment for Fall 2019 is up. We now serve approximately 1150 students from over 100 high schools, over 50 counties, and 10 states. This is the fourth year in a row that USC Union has set a Fall Semester enrollment record. The third privately owned and operated student housing site adjacent to campus is now open. Six students studied sociology in Ireland in May. International study plans for next summer are underway. Two students presented their research to the USC Union Partnership Board in May and were well received. A rifle target team is new for the Fall. Both

soccer and baseball will now play at new Bantams stadiums in Jonesville. NJCAA women's volleyball will be added in Fall 2020.

Faculty & Staff

We have hired new tenure track faculty in Foreign Language and Psychology this fall. Our athletic director and softball coach, women's soccer coach, and a recruiter from Admissions all left USC Union this summer. Zach Simmons will serve as the new Athletic Director, Dr. William Royce is the new softball coach, and we will hire a new student activities coordinator who will plan and oversee student events. Tiffany Turner who has been part time is now full time helping both the Admissions Office and the Business Office.

Facilities

We have met with architects to develop final plans for the conversion of the old library space to classrooms and faculty offices, using the space primarily for language arts and humanities instruction. We should have the space ready by Fall 2020. Preliminary architectural plans are being drawn to convert the old Post Office Building to a fine arts building, including classrooms and faculty offices. Plans are also being drawn to convert the corner building next to the Bookstore at 317 East Main St. It will be the new USC Union Welcome Center, housing Admissions and Financial Aid. We have added a third PC classroom to Union and Laurens sites and upgraded the four older PC rooms this summer. This year we hope to renovate all restrooms in the CB & MB, including handicapped accessibility upgrades. Science and Nursing Building improvements are ongoing. Several grants, including a BC/BS grant of \$150K, have been awarded toward nursing simulation and nursing instruction. We also have received Mrs. Rippey's building at 125 East Main St. as a gift.

Budget

The USCU budget is in good shape, due mainly to recent enrollment increases, and both revenues and expenditures are very close to budgeted figures. We ended the fiscal year meeting our goal of maintaining a three-month reserve balance. SC continuing appropriations will get a bump this year thanks to Doug Gilliam's efforts in Columbia. USC Union has also seen some one time appropriations designed to renovate current facilities.

Academic Dean's Report - 9/20/2019

Syllabi, Office Hours, and Attendance Tracking

- If you haven't already, remember to submit a copy of the syllabus for each class that you are teaching this Fall as soon as possible to Academic Affairs (send to Randy lowell@mailbox.sc.edu; and Christen eng lance@mailbox.sc.edu).

Progress Reports

- We will be looking for Progress Reports for students in full semester classes to be submitted to Academic Affairs by Wednesday, October 9. For these reports, we just need you to submit the names of any students who at that point are at risk of failing the class. We will get word to those students about this so that ahead of the start of Fall II classes starting on 10/14 in case they need to replace your class with a Fall II class, and only get a W instead of a W/F grade in your class as well (last day to drop a full semester class without getting a W/F grade is 11/21). Progress Reports for Fall II classes will be called for later in the semester, in early November.

TAO Self-Help/Self-Enroll Update

- Our USC Union TAO is active for campus wide use. It is available for free unlimited use by any USC Union faculty/staff/student, just by using the USC Union email address to register. Details on registration had been emailed out and are in regular rotation on the screens around campus, but let me know if you want me to resend them to you directly. If you want to use some of the modules in your class in some way as a kind of assignment or extra credit activity, I can help you get that set up as well. Could be an especially good de-stresser as we approach mid-term and final exams for students.

Important Dates:

- Last Day to Drop a class without getting a 'W/F' (first-8-weeks class): 9/25
- PC Faculty Senate: 9/27 (Columbia)
- Founders Day: 10/4, starting at 11:00
- Fall Break (no classes): 10/10-10/11
- Spring Registration, beginning right after Fall Break, on 10/14
- Last Day to Drop a class without getting a 'W' (second-8-weeks class): 10/17
- Last Day to Drop a class without getting a 'W/F' (full semester class): 11/6
- PC Faculty Senate: 11/8 (Lancaster)
- Last Day to Drop a class without getting a 'W/F' (second-8-weeks class): 11/21
- Thanksgiving Break (no classes): 11/27-11/29
- Last Day of Classes: 12/6
- Final Exams Week: 12/9-12/16

Research Club

- We will have our next Club meeting on Thursday, the 26th, from 12:00-1:00 in the Community Room, to continue planning Club events for the semester. The last meeting resulted in a number of events that the Club will put on, including a Car Wash Fundraiser in the Church parking next door on the morning of 10/4; a Lunch & Learn featuring Dr. Schafer on 10/15 from 12:00-1:00; a Colloquium on 11/22 from 12:00-3:00; and

Halloween and Thanksgiving Bake Sale fundraisers. If there is enough interest, a potential Trivia Bowl event may also take place later in the semester. The student officers for the Club were confirmed at the last meeting as well, including Katie Sligh for President, Tomi LaChance for Vice President, and Makenzie Grady for Secretary.

- There are 2 different experiments running currently in the PALM Psyc Lab, and both are still looking for more volunteer participants. This includes Tomi LaChance's experiment on social media/personality/meditation, which she is getting some help with by a Union County concurrent student, Nicole Lee. The other experiment is Kelsey Granger's experiment on perceptions of sexual assault using the eyetracker, with her getting some help from Dani Bradley on that data collection. If you are open to offering extra credit for students who participate in either/both of these experiments, all the better.