



University of Colorado
Colorado Springs

September 2015

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome back to Fall semester!! It is already busy!!

We have already had our kick off Conversations at Clyde's and will be scheduling one each month for the rest of the year. It was great meeting some of the new faculty at the new faculty reception at Conversations at Clydes!! I want to encourage all faculty to come out when you can so we can just get together and get out of our college "silos" for a bit!

First, some announcements.

HUGE congratulations are in order for Andrea Herrera who is being awarded the Chase Community Service Award. This award will be presented to her at the Regents meeting on September 11th. This is an amazing accomplishment and is one that has not been received by someone at UCCS for quite some time. Congratulations Andrea!

Faculty Dependent Scholarship applications must be submitted by Nov. 1, 2015. The link is below and is also on the faculty assembly website.

<http://www.uccs.edu/facassembly/faculty-dependents-scholarship-program-application.html>

There is a search beginning to replace Jerry Wilson, the director of IT, who is retiring in the Spring. This is an important search as this role affects all of us as faculty. I'm not sure what the process will be as far as faculty input, but I encourage you to pay attention to any emails regarding this important search.

Now, to the year ahead! It will be a busy one! We have several initiatives in progress that are continuing as well as some new ones.

Michele will be continuing work on mentorship and leadership and professional development programs. We want to encourage faculty networking and connection across colleges. Conversations at Clydes is a great way to get out our silos and get to know your colleagues across campus.

We will continue to fine-tune our bylaws and to develop bylaws for those committees that do not have them. We need to ensure that committee bylaws are consistent with our assembly bylaws.

Another continuing initiative is an emphasis on communication – two-way communication -- between us, as a representative body, and the full faculty assembly. This means representatives need to be communicating back to their college and getting

feedback as needed. Representatives should ensure that their colleagues know that they can bring faculty issues forward for us to address. Representatives should investigate whether they have an e-mail list set up within their college to be able to easily send an email to the college faculty as a group.

A new initiative we are beginning this year is to look at what colleges have written college-level policies. There are many college-level “practices” that should be policies. These are policies that can protect faculty rights, but can also provide helpful guidance for faculty. This is about increasing transparency and visibility.

At the system level, work continues on the membership of the Privilege and Tenure committee, specifically the inclusion and role of nontenure track faculty and Emeritus faculty.

I’m looking forward to working with all of you this year as we serve our campus community and work to connect across campus!

I hope to see you at the next Conversations at Clydes which will be held the week of September 21st. Watch you e-mail!

Sincerely,

Monique L. French, PhD
Associate Professor
Faculty Representative Assembly President, 2015-2016