Message from: Monique French mfrench3@uccs.edu

December 2015

Hi Everyone,
Conversation at Clyde’s for December is this Friday, December 11th from 4-6 PM. It is being hosted by Ying Fan, Stephanie Spratt, & Leilani Feliciano. Come out and take a break from the end of the semester insanity!! These are faculty only events where we can connect in an informal environment.

Here are some of what’s been happening:
1. Graduation! I hope all of you are planning to come to commencement next Friday at the World Arena!! This event is very important to our students and it means a lot to them to see their favorite professors there!
2. Elections! It is time to start thinking about your service load for 2016-2017 and consider running for a faculty governance position! The official call for nominations will go out on February 1st which is quite early in the Spring semester! We will be electing representatives from each college, secretary, president, vice president/president elect, and a faculty council representative. Self-nominations are welcome! Please consider serving in these important roles! Feel free to ask me any questions!
3. The CU Women Succeeding Symposium for 2016 is February 25th and 26th! It is here at UCCS this year, so be sure to register!! Find info and register here: https://www.cu.edu/faculty-council/cu-women-succeeding-symposium-2016
4. Snow Closures! When all campus activities starting before a certain time are cancelled, that means they are CANCELLED! This means that even if your class extends past that time, it is CANCELLED!! Do NOT tell your students to come to start class late. When campus is closed, administration does not really want us here either. This also applies to holiday closures. Unless your research requires you to come to campus (feeding critters, monitoring ongoing experiments, or ??), please try to minimize visits and time on campus when it is closed for any reason.
3. The Council P&T committee is still working on finalizing policy changes needed to include NTTF members. Once this is done, we will be seeking faculty to serve.
4. You may remember the tuition benefit change discussions from last year. President Benson has assured Faculty Council that there will be a plan by Spring. You may recall that there was some discussion about it being paid for by coming out of the merit pool. There was, and is, widespread disapproval with this, and the Chair of Faculty Council said it will be made clear to President Benson that this option is not acceptable to faculty.
4. Thank you to PRIDE for finding another representative for the system GLBTI committee. I still have not gotten anyone for EMAC. Please consider serving or encouraging someone from your college to serve. These committees meet in Denver, but members can generally participate remotely. When you travel to Denver, mileage and parking are reimbursed! Please help me find representatives to serve on these important committees.

5. Mark Hayes, the Director of Dining and Food Services is resurrecting the Food Services Advisory committee and is seeking to identify faculty and staff that would be interested in serving. They hope to begin meeting in February 2016 and meet once per month.

6. EPUS has done some preliminary investigation about grade forgiveness. The student body has not formally brought this to us yet. We will not be considering anything until they do.

Sincerely,

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