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October 2001 - Staff Meeting Minutes

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Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication
Staff Meeting Minutes
Friday, October 19, 2001
1:00-3:00 PM – 311 Ag Hall

Present: Barbuto, Barrett, Bell, Fairchild, Fleming, Fritz, Husmann, James, King, Moody, Parsons, Rockwell

Fritz called the meeting to order.

Parsons moved and Husmann seconded approval of the minutes of the September 14, 2001, staff meeting. Motion passed.

King led the discussion of Action Plan No. 1. King mentioned that we must decide what we can do with the financial resources available to us in regard to any budget cuts from the legislative special session. Fairchild led the discussion of Action Plan No. 2. Both King and Fairchild asked that additional comments be sent to them. King will contact John Malin about Advisory Council members' input on the Action Plans. The Action plans are scheduled to be finalized by the November staff meeting.

Moody reported for the Undergraduate Committee. They approved a proposal for the revision of the Leadership and Communication minor. Discussion. Moody moved that the proposal for the revision of the AgLEC Leadership and Communication Minor be accepted. Parsons seconded. Motion passed. The Undergraduate Committee is beginning to work on the Departmental Review document. The Assessment Report was submitted October 15.

Fleming presented the idea of an Advisor Advantage to be held on November 1. Advisors would be available from 6:00-8:00 p.m. to meet with students. Husmann moved that AgLEC hold an Advisory Advantage on November 1 in the classroom. Moody seconded. Motion passed.

Barrett reported for the Graduate Education and Faculty Research Committee. Students are getting mixed messages from advisors on what is expected of them. Faculty are encouraged to read the Graduate Student Handbook for information and correct procedures to discuss with graduate students.

Fairchild distributed minutes from the Outreach Committee. Philip Simpson is now the recorder for the Outreach Committee.

Rockwell presented information from the Promotion and Tenure Committee on courtesy appointments for Janet Fox and Gary Meers. Discussion. Rockwell moved that Janet Fox and Gary Meers be granted a five-year term courtesy appointment with AgLEC. Motion passed. The P&T Committee is also working on several award nominations. ARFAs are due November 1st.

Fleming is still seeking recommendations for new Advisory Council members to replace those rotating off. The next AgLEC Advisory Council meeting is April 2, 2002.
Fritz presented current budget information for the department. Even though our operating budget is progressing nicely, toner expenses continue to be high. IANR has formed a committee to look at the budget recission. Faculty and staff are encouraged to attend.

Fritz received an e-mail message from Waller that faculty positions will not be released until next spring. Consequently, our ag leadership faculty position is currently on hold.

Faculty discussed security and safety issues on East Campus. A student was recently hit by a car near Ag Hall. Barrett moved that AgLEC write a letter to Vice Chancellor Owens and the Deans with a copy to Dale Vanderholm to recommend that pedestrian crosswalks be painted or repainted on East Campus streets, speed bumps be added in certain pedestrian traffic areas, new signs be added to alert drivers to the on-campus speed limit and heavy volume of pedestrian traffic, enforcement of campus speed limits by Campus Security, and request that the speed on Holdrege be reduced near East Campus. Parsons seconded. Motion passed.

Fritz presented the letter of response from Darrell Nelson concerning AgLEC's Departmental Review. Discussion. Rockwell moved that Judith Jones from Blacksburg, VA, Eric Brown from KRVN Radio, and Kirby Barrick from the University of Illinois be submitted as alternatives if any of the first three cannot participate. Motion passed.

Announcements – Barrett reported that the job announcement for the CASNR Dean is now available. They are looking for names of people to nominate. He encouraged faculty to think about what qualities we want in a CASNR Dean. Send ideas and names to Barrett.

Fritz distributed copies of the UNL Extended Education News. Deadlines for Course Development grants are listed. Visit their website at <extended.unl.edu> for more information.

Fritz met recently with the NCR 203 Committee in St. Louis. They focus on enhancing the quality of life in rural America. Grant ideas could be coming out of this committee.

King announced that the Academic Senate is working on the issue of evaluation of administrators. And, there are lots of concerns about the university budget at the Academic Senate.

Meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Submitted by Betty James
October 31, 2001