

3-11-2005

## March 2005 - Staff Meeting Minutes

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**Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication**  
**Staff Meeting Minutes**  
**Friday, March 11, 2005**  
**311 Ag Hall**

**Present:** Barbuto, Barrett, Bell, Fairchild, Fleming, Fritz, Husmann, James, Wheeler

Fritz called the staff meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. Husmann moved and Barrett seconded approval of the minutes of the February 11, 2005, staff meeting. Motion passed.

Fritz discussed the status of the UNL/IANR/CASNR Strategic Planning materials. Alan Baquet has the job of pulling together everything from the departments for IANR.

Barrett reported for the Promotion and Tenure Committee and presented a revision proposal on department expectations for performance in teaching for the departmental handbook. It is designed to conform with university-wide criteria developed by Academic Affairs. Discussion. Barrett moved that we adopt this policy to revise department expectations of performance in teaching. Bell seconded. Discussion. Husmann moved that we table this issue until the April staff meeting. Barbuto seconded. Motion passed.

Bell reported that the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee had a meeting this morning that consisted mainly of housekeeping business. Recruitment in AgLEC is up. A major topic of discussion at the next CASNR Curriculum Committee will be the proposal of reducing the number of credit hours for graduation to 120 from 128.

Husmann reported for the Graduate Education and Research Committee. They also met this morning and discussed masters-level full, provisional, and denied admissions. On February 18, staff from the Office of Graduate Studies visited AgLEC. They were impressed with our new graduate brochure, and our website has been identified as one of the top websites at UNL. We have been encouraged to pursue our own leadership studies doctoral program.

Fritz distributed the departmental budget information as of February 28. We continue to do fine. Grants do help with operating expenses for the department. They also help extend graduate assistantships.

Bell discussed the Ag Journalism faculty position. It has been signed by the Vice Chancellor and will now be advertised and posted to several listservs. The tuition shortfall is being discussed, but we are assured that the ag journalism position will not be pulled.

Fritz announced that Nancy Grudens-Schuck from Iowa State University will be visiting on April 26-27. She will be making a presentation entitled "Does Assessment Impact Learning?" Her vita will be sent to faculty.

Barbuto and Bell met with Fritz to discuss the use of salary savings. Bell reported that the idea is to have an "executive in residence" by bringing in someone from agri-business or industry to work with us for a year. It would be a professional development opportunity for that person. They would be paid a minimal amount (\$10,000). Discussion. Faculty expressed general support for the idea. Bell, Barbuto, and Fritz will meet with a couple of industry executives to explore their reactions to the executive in residence idea. Also, we could use salary saving dollars to help with grant writing. Barbuto will check downtown to see if we can hire people on a temporary basis.

Announcement – Items for the newsletter are due by next Friday, March 18<sup>th</sup>.

The next Advisory Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 13. Reminder letters have been sent to the Council. Since the focus is research, Barbuto will contact the Advisory Council members by e-mail for input on the agenda. Posters of recent projects will be hung around the room at the meeting – Rockwell, Husmann.

Fritz reported on the Unit Planning Session feedback and discussed ideas from that.

The Masters Week Nomination Form is due March 31. Fleming and Barrett will help with the nomination.

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

**Mark your calendars –**

Next staff meeting – Friday, April 8, at 10:00 a.m.

Submitted by Betty James  
March 15, 2005