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December 2007 - Staff Meeting Minutes

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Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication
Staff Meeting Minutes
Friday, December 14, 2007
311 Ag Hall

Present: Barbuto, Barrett, Baumert, Bell, Ellis, Fleming, Gifford, Husmann, James, King, Latta, Matkin, Moody, Pennisi, K. Smith, Smola, Wheeler Guest: Ron Bonnstetter

Wheeler called the staff meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

Ron Bonnstetter presented information on the Science Applications for Educators made possible by a grant from the Toyota Foundation. They are looking for courses to include in this project.

Approval of Minutes – Barbuto moved to approve the minutes of the November 9, 2007, staff meeting. Ellis seconded.

Promotion and Tenure Committee – Barrett reported the committee is reviewing promotion files.

Undergraduate Curriculum Committee – Husmann reported the committee met this morning and discussed recruitment. A second draft of the departmental strategic plan objectives will be sent out to faculty for review.

Outreach Committee – Ellis stated there is nothing significant to report.

Graduate Student Association (GSA) Update – Gifford reported 40-50 people plan to attend the holiday party on Saturday, December 15, to be held at Gina Matkin's home.

Department Strategic Plan – Fleming reported input has been received from all the committees, plus an overview from Wheeler. It needs to be finished before the Holiday break. Wheeler will present it at the AgLEEC Unit Planning Session on January 9th.

Bylaws Addition to Guidelines – Fleming presented information to add Professor of Practice to the AgLEEC departmental guidelines. Discussion. Barrett moved to approve the proposed changes as presented. Matkin seconded. Motion passed.

Graduate Education and Research Committee – King reported the committee met this morning. They are looking at clarifying the doctoral rating criteria for new Ph.D. students.

UDTA Award – Bell and Barrett submitted a proposal with several ideas on how to spend the award money. The committee will come up with a process for applying for the funds. They also would like the names of possible speakers to invite here.

Faculty Advisory Council – Barbuto reported the Master of Ag degree is changing its name to Master of Applied Science. The audit of undergraduate courses in CASNR reports that 50% of all undergraduate courses have an enrollment of less than 10 students. This includes courses that are crosslisted with graduate courses. The purpose of the report is to help department heads

manage the calculated FTE for faculty. Another item being discussed is a new form entitled *Program Evaluation for Instructional Improvement*. All faculty would be required to participate in the process. It did not get a favorable response from members of the FAC. They have been asked to provide feedback from faculty at the next FAC meeting. One idea is to have new faculty with teaching appointments enroll in ALEC 805 and ALEC 905. Please provide comments to Barbuto within the next few weeks.

CASNR Curriculum Committee – Barrett had nothing to report.

Faculty Senate – King reported Chancellor Perlman discussion the potential research plan for UNL. And, the eARFA may be going away with a university-wide reporting system in its place.

Recruitment – Smola reported on recruitment activities. A second senior mailing was sent to 520 students. There is lots of interest in ag education. The first meeting of the new Undergraduate Leadership group was held on December 4. A recruiting newsletter is planned for next year.

Budget Update – Wheeler distributed budget information. We are spending money as we should so far this fiscal year.

Announcements – Matkin announced that Karla Baumert will not be returning as a Graduate Assistant next semester.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Next staff meeting will be **January 25 at 10:00 a.m.**

Additional staff meeting dates for spring semester 2008 –

Friday, February 15

Friday, March 14

Friday, April 18

Friday, May 16

Submitted by Betty James
December 19, 2007