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February 2008 - Staff Meeting Minutes

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Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication
Staff Meeting Minutes
Friday, February 15, 2008
311 Ag Hall

Present: Barbuto, Bell, Ellis, Fleming, Husmann, James, King, Kraft, Latta, Larson, Moody, Pennisi, Phipps, Smith, Smola, Story, Troumbley, Wheeler

Wheeler called the staff meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. and announced that the ACE workshop recently held in Atlanta went very well under the leadership of Kelly Phipps. We will be continuing with that project. Also, two distance courses, developed by Matkin and Barbuto, have been funded and supported for development.

Approval of Minutes – Ellis moved to approve the minutes of the February 1, 2008, staff meeting. King seconded.

Promotion and Tenure Committee – Bell reported the committee reviewed the files of the four potential candidates for the AgLEC department head position and have approved them all.

Graduate Education and Research Committee – King reported changes in the masters program are under discussion. The focus will be on more classes for students to take to complete their program. Also, King reminded students that the Graduates Studies Connection newsletter is a good resource for students.

Undergraduate Curriculum Committee – Husmann reported that three items from Ellis were discussed at the meeting today. Kraft, Industrial Technology Lecturer, gave the committee a list of courses to be transferred to AgLEC.

Teaching Award Criteria – Bell reported on the items that have been discussed for spending the \$25,000 award which include 1) department retreat, 2) on-campus teaching presentations, 3) funding to undergraduate clubs, and 4) approximately \$15,000 to distribute by request to those attending workshops, etc. A form has been created to be filled out by those interested in applying for funds. Discussion.

Proposed Professor of Practice – Wheeler reported two positions are being developed and proposed.

Search Committees – Ellis reported Monday, February 18, is the official date that applications will begin to be reviewed for the Lecturer position. Husmann reported three candidates for the Department Head position have been approved to interview on campus. Vice Chancellor Owens is making contact with the fourth candidate.

Faculty Advisory Council – Barbuto reported enrollment is up 11.5% in CASNR so our numbers are looking better than all other colleges at UNL. The good news is many faculty positions have been released to be filled in IANR. Suggestions from AgLEC for the Program Evaluation for Instructional Improvement were taken to the committee. This revised program has been approved by the committee. This version is totally voluntary, but every department must

have a plan. If departments don't adopt this one, they must develop their own Program Evaluation for Instructional Improvement. The University of Nebraska is committed to instructional development. A committee consisting of Barbuto, Bell, Ellis, Latta, Pennisi, and Smith will meet in about a month to begin the process of developing AgLEC's instructional improvement plan. Wheeler will attend the first meeting.

Faculty Senate – King reported emerti policy issues are being looked at.

Department Head Interviews – King led the discussion on ideas/suggestions for the candidates as they interview with AgLEC.

Announcements from Dick Fleming – AgLEC Activities

FFA Convention/Career Development Events – First Week of April

Linda Moody is the CDE coordinator. Members of AgLEC are in charge of various events:

Lloyd Bell – Ag Sales; Jason Ellis – Ag Journalism; Dann Husmann – Ag Science.

They will need assistance in carrying out these events.

AgLEC Hospitality Room for Agricultural Educators, April 2-4, Cornhusker Marriott

The AgLEC Hospitality Room for Agricultural Educators will be open from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. April 2, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 3 and 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. April 4. Dick Fleming will place a schedule by the mailboxes March 14 for faculty to sign up to serve as hosts in the Hospitality Room.

FFA Career Fair, 1 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., April 3, west end of arena, Pershing Auditorium.

AgLEC will have a booth at the Career Fair. Gina Matkin and Alyssa Smola are coordinating this activity. They will need help setting up, staffing and taking down the booth.

AgLEC, state sponsor, Agricultural Education Awards

The award recipients will receive plaques during the recognition program Thursday evening, April 3, in Pershing Auditorium. Dan Wheeler will present the awards.

AgLEC Advisory Council Meeting, 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., East Union, April 16

During the Staff Meeting in January there was a discussion of possible topics at the Spring Advisory Council meeting.

- ▶ Lisa Pennisi will be able to attend and discuss some of her activities.
- ▶ Leverne Barrett will be conducting a class activity in the East Union that day. He could give a brief overview of the activity and invite Council members to attend the session for 20-25 minutes.
- ▶ The department might ask graduates of various degree programs to discuss where they are working now and how the program prepared them for the position. Dick Fleming is soliciting names of graduates from the various degree programs.
- ▶ Members of the Advisory Council also were asked to suggest ideas.
Council member Dennis Kahl responded with the suggestions below.
 - ▶ Nebraska Leadership Plenty program – What we are doing? Impact of the program. Economic impact evaluation tool being developed with the help of Cindy Williams, AgLEC graduate student.
 - ▶ New curriculum for UNL Extension is being developed by a team with the hope of presenting a pilot program this fall.
 - ▶ 4-H ESI Curriculum (Entrepreneurship Investigation) A pilot program was

offered at a 4-H camp last summer with great success. The curriculum incorporates leadership skills, entrepreneurship skills, planning, financing, etc. in a three-book curriculum for middle school age youth. 4-H staff hope to connect local business owners with youth and create an interest in youth returning to their rural communities.

Please forward your reactions to these ideas to Dick Fleming. The ideas will be discussed with the Advisory Council officers to develop the program for the April meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m. Next staff meeting will be **March 14 at 10:00 a.m.**

Submitted by Betty James
February 20, 2008