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April 17, 2009 - Staff Meeting Minutes

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Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication
Staff Meeting Minutes
Friday, April 17, 2009
311 Ag Hall

Present: Mark Balschweid, Jay Barbuto, Leverne Barrett, Lloyd Bell, Heather Borck, Jason Ellis, Dick Fleming, Kem Gambrell, Greg Gifford, Jennifer Greenlee, Heath Harding, Dann Husmann, Betty James, Jim King, Tom Kraft, Gina Matkin, Linda Moody, Donnette Noble, Lisa Pennisi, Kelly Phipps, Joana Story

Balschweid called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Approval of Minutes – A motion was made by Husmann and seconded by King to approve the minutes of the March 27, 2009, staff meeting. Motion passed.

Promotion and Tenure Committee – No report from Barrett. Balschweid asked Husmann to present a request received, and Husmann read the letter from Leverne Barrett indicating he will retire on June 30, 2009. He is requesting an emeritus appointment at that time. Husmann made a motion that Leverne Barrett be granted emeritus status when he retires. Discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Balschweid presented a request from the Agricultural Research Division (ARD) for nominations for the ARD Advisory Council for District 7. Dr. Nancy Lewis currently represents District 7 which consists of the departments of Agricultural Leadership, Education & Communication, Child, Youth & Family Studies, Nutritional & Health Sciences, Textiles, Clothing & Design. Her term ends this spring so they are asking for nominations of faculty members with research appointments. Jay Barbuto and Gina Matkin are the only AgLEC faculty with research appointments. This group meets quarterly, and it is a three-year term. Discussion.

Barbuto mentioned that his term on the CASNR Faculty Advisory Council is ending, but he would like to continue. Barbuto made a motion that he be reappointed to serve on the CASNR Faculty Advisory Council for another term. Husmann seconded. Motion passed.

Back to ARD Advisory Council – more discussion. King made a motion that Barbuto be on the ballot as AgLEC's nominee for the ARD Advisory Council. Ballots will be sent to faculty in May to determine who will be the representative from District 7.

Undergraduate Curriculum Committee – Husmann reported they met this morning. Discussion included two course proposals from Linda Moody and the ALEC 102 courses. It was announced that Husmann won the Sigma Alpha “Kiss the Pig” contest for CASNR Week. He will be kissing the pig at the UNL Rodeo tonight.

Graduate Education and Research Committee – King reported the committee met this morning. Kraft presented a course he is working on with Gary Meers. Amy Boren has requested Graduate Faculty status. Admission policies for AgLEC graduate students was also discussed, but no decisions have been made yet.

CASNR Faculty Advisory Council – Barbuto reported they met on April 13th. There were no action items. The minutes from that meeting are attached.

CASNR Curriculum Committee – Matkin reported they met on April 3 and approved several courses including qualified Life Science courses for CASNR.

Faculty Senate – King reported the UNL budget continues to be a discussion issue. Innovation Campus needs to be in gear by the end of the year. Applicants are being interviewed for a Chief Information Officer at UNL. And, there will probably be changes in UNL's approach to network security. It is not as good as other institutions.

CASNR Recruitment, Retention & Planning Committee – No report.

AgLEC Recruitment – Borck reported we currently have 22 new students admitted for fall. Ten students will be graduating in May. Borck and Smola have attended several recruitment activities around the state. Balschweid thanked them for doing a wonderful job of interacting with potential students at various events.

Decorating Committee – Fleming reported for the committee (see attached).

Graduate Student Association (GSA) Update – Story reported they met on April 13th and had a good discussion of the GSA. Matkin will continue as the advisor of the group. Cindy Munson will be the new President and Judith Wolfe, Treasurer.

Advisory Council – Balschweid told everyone he appreciated their interaction with the Advisory Council on April 15th. Fleming reported it was a good session for the new members before the regular meeting started. They are excited to participate. The Advisory Council meeting was also very informative with lots of excellent discussion. The next meeting will be Wednesday, October 28, 2009.

AgLEC Strategic Planning Process – Balschweid reported this Strategic Plan is still in draft form. Balschweid would like to continue moving this along and have it finished by the next staff meeting. Comments from the Advisory Council meeting will be incorporated.

2009 AAAE Research Conference – Bell reported the call for proposals came out yesterday. They are due June 1st. To submit a proposal, an American Association for Agricultural Education (AAAE) member needs to be an author. Also, the national meeting of the AAAE will be in Omaha in May 2010. This will be another opportunity to present papers without having to travel very far. Bell described the agenda and asked for volunteers to help with the September 2009 conference. A meeting has been scheduled at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, April 24, to discuss the volunteer opportunities.

Budget Update – Balschweid distributed budget information as of April 16th. Presentations and meetings about the UNL budget are coming up soon. There are still many unknowns about any budget cuts for UNL.

Announcements

In conjunction with CASNR Week – Gina Matkin and Greg Gifford have been nominated for outstanding teaching, and Lloyd Bell, Dann Husmann, and Jason Ellis have been nominated for outstanding academic advising.

Kelly Phipps had a paper accepted for the Academy of Management conference, and it has been designated as a “Best Accepted Paper.”

Jason Ellis submitted a grant to USDA in the amount of \$1.2 million.

Lisa Pennisi has been awarded a UCARE student – Robert Branting. Robert will be working on the project entitled “Inventory of Recreational Facilities Across Nebraska - NGPC.”

Joana Story and Courtney Quinn will each receive a \$2,000 fellowship from the UNL Graduate Fellowship Committee for the 2009-2010 academic year. This is in recognition of their outstanding academic performance and scholarly potential.

Heath Harding will receive 2009 Chancellor's Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Community at UNL at a reception today.

Dick Fleming thanked everyone who helped host the Hospitality Room at the Cornhusker during the State FFA Convention. This year we had the largest participation from the Ag Ed teachers, and they seemed to appreciate the hospitality very much.

Balschweid announced that IANR Outstanding Employee Award nominations for office/service staff are due May 15th.

The UNL Research Fair was held this week, and good things are happening.

Lisa Pennisi passed out information on the CASNR Manuscript Review Guidelines. Discussion.

Dee Trudeau and her undergraduate students will be here today for a luncheon and presentation.

Tom Kraft announced student project presentations from the Spring woodworking course will be held on May 8th from 9:00-11:00 a.m. in 45 Henzlik. Some items will be for sale.

Meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Next staff meeting will be **Friday, May 15**, at 10:00 a.m.

Submitted by Betty James
April 20, 2009