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May 2009 - Staff Meeting Minutes

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"May 2009 - Staff Meeting Minutes" (2009). *ALEC Committee Minutes*. Paper 78.
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Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication (AgLEC)
Staff Meeting Minutes
Friday, May 15, 2009
311 Ag Hall

Present: Mark Balschweid, Jay Barbuto, Leverne Barrett, Lloyd Bell, Heather Borck, Jason Ellis, Patricia Fairchild, Dick Fleming, Jennifer Greenlee, Dann Husmann, Betty James, Jim King, Tom Kraft, Gina Matkin, Linda Moody, Lisa Pennisi, Kelly Phipps

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

Approval of Minutes – A motion was made by Matkin and seconded by King to approve the minutes of the April 17, 2009, staff meeting. Motion passed.

Promotion and Tenure (P&T) Committee – Barrett reported the committee has received two requests (from Donnette Noble and Terry Hejny) for adjunct appointments. Barrett made a motion that Donnette Noble and Terry Hejny both be granted adjunct appointments in AgLEC. Husmann seconded. Discussion. Barrett and Husmann agreed to make these two separate motions. The first motion is Donnette Noble be granted an adjunct appointment in AgLEC. Motion passed. Bell moved that Terry Hejny's courtesy appointment decision be postponed to the September 2009 staff meeting. Husmann seconded. Motion passed.

Barrett presented information about adding another professor to the P&T Committee since he is retiring June 30th, and we will not have enough full professors in the department for the committee. Discussion. Husmann moved that this decision be delayed. Barrett seconded. Motion passed.

Undergraduate Curriculum Committee – Husmann reported they met this morning. Two new course proposals (ALEC 153 – Chancellor's Leadership and ALEC 165 – Pepsi Scholars) were approved. Kris Baack and Linda Moody attended the meeting to present information about the courses. Also, an Industrial Tech course modification was presented by Tom Kraft.

Graduate Education and Research Committee – King reported the committee met this morning and discussed admission policies. The decision has been made to suspense applications for next spring and summer. This will give us time to make changes to policies. Also, there is a new on-line form for undergraduate students to use if they want to take graduate courses. They must be in the last year of their program to take graduate courses.

CASNR Faculty Advisory Council – Barbuto reported they met on May 11th. There were no action items. Enrollment deposits are down 10%. The minutes are attached.

CASNR Curriculum Committee – Matkin reported they met and approved a new 400/800 agronomy courses, a new science illustration course, and the Industrial Education minor. There was one Industrial Education course that was not approved. Tom Kraft will investigate bringing the course back to the committee with more information.

Faculty Senate – King reported John Fech is now president. The issues continue to include the budget. If programs are cut that include faculty positions being cut, it will go before the Academic Planning Committee. Other issues being discussed this summer include health insurance costs and parking costs. There is lots of information in the Senate Executive minutes that King sends out. He encourages everyone to read them.

CASNR Recruitment, Retention & Planning Committee – Ellis reported New Student Enrollment will be held this summer. Ellis encouraged us to pay attention to the emails from Sue Voss as they are planning events for fall. Also, "Take a Parent to Lunch" is important for faculty to attend. There will be a CASNR event for this, so don't go downtown. Karen Jackson is taking names if you want to attend. Faculty should be a presence to explain AgLEC programs to the parents of students.

Kraft indicated he has a new recruitment flyer for the Industrial Tech leadership option. He needs help distributing

the flyers.
Bell reported we are pursuing a 3+1 program with Wayne State College for Ag Education. This program would allow students to take three years at Wayne State, attend the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) and graduate with a UNL degree in Ag Education. There are quite a few Ag Education teachers in northeast Nebraska. We will see if they are interested in this type of program.

AgLEC Recruitment – Borck reported we currently have 19 new students admitted for fall – 10 Ag Education, 7 Ag Journalism, and 2 HRTM. Mike Wilmot will be the new graduate assistant to help Borck with recruiting activities starting in the fall.

Decorating Committee – Balschweid reported the classroom and graduate offices will be painted next week. The polycom is broken and will be replaced before next fall. We are hoping to have access to a 20 port bridge on city campus with the new polycom.

Graduate Student Association (GSA) Update – no report. Jim King commented that he was able to delegate questions from new graduate students who will be moving to Lincoln. Cindy Munson, the new GSA President, has been giving them information (student to student).

AgLEC Strategic Planning Process – Balschweid presented the Strategic Plan as an Action Item. Ellis moved to accept the AgLEC Strategic Plan as written. King seconded. Discussion. Ellis moved to refer the issues to a committee with them reporting at the first staff meeting in the fall. Matkin seconded. Motion passed. Barrett, Barbuto, Bell, and Moody volunteered to work on addressing teaching issues in the AgLEC Strategic Plan.

2009 AAAE Research Conference – Bell reported the AAAE conference registration form is in final form and will be distributed soon.

Budget Update – Balschweid distributed budget information as of May 14th. There are still uncertainties with the state and university budget.

Announcements

Dr. Gina Matkin is the recipient of $5,000 grant from Extended Education and Outreach to create an on-line version of ALEC 202 – Leadership in Small Groups. Matkin is also the recipient of an EPA P3 (People, Prosperity, and the Planet) Phase One Grant. The $10,000 seed money will be used to develop a proposed program for creating a larger EPA grant.

Dr. Lisa Pennisi was the Co-PI on a grant submitted with Agronomy/Agricultural Economics/School of Natural Resources and Extension for $30,000. The grant is titled "Managing a grazed land for greater prairie-chicken habitat: can prairie chicken ecotourism increase cattle ranch profit?" Pennisi's role will be to provide ecotourism assessment. Pennisi also had one of her students accepted in the Children and Nature Network's Leader's Summit 2009 to be held in San Francisco, CA. This program focuses on getting kids outdoors and inspires them to make a difference.

CSREES Review – ARD has received confirmation from USDA pertaining to our request for program review. CSREES personnel are in the process of assigning a team leader for the review. Once a team leader is selected the review dates will be finalized.

Meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Next staff meeting will in September 2009 (dates to be determined).

Submitted by Betty James
May 22, 2009