

2-12-2010

February 12, 2010 - Staff Meeting Minutes

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**ALEC Staff Meeting
February 12, 2010
Minutes**

Present: Mark Balschweid, Jay Barbuto, Lloyd Bell, Kathy Bennetch, Heather Borck, Patricia Fairchild, Dick Fleming, Jennifer Greenlee, Janice Hamer, Lindsay Hastings, Dann Husmann, Betty James, Jim King, Tom Kraft, Gina Matkin, Kristin Morse, Donnette Noble, Kelly Phipps, Mike Wilmot, and Judith Wolfe

Welcome – Balschweid welcomed Lindsay Hastings, Nebraska Human Research Institute (NHRI) Director, and her graduate assistant, Kristin Morse to AgLEC. Hastings indicated the leadership development program in NHRI was started in 1949, over 60 years ago. Balschweid invited Hastings to do a presentation about NHRI program at a later staff meeting.

Approval of Minutes – The minutes were approved as presented. Committee reports and minutes are now kept on the “T” drive under “AgLEC Departmental Committee Report” for your review.

AFRI Developments – Husmann reported the AFRI materials have been delayed; hence, the IANR scheduled workshops are now canceled. The severe weather in DC has closed the government offices and hampered this process.

External Review – Fleming said the external review deadline is approaching and we have sections still missing. Balschweid announced four external review team members are:

Dr. Greg Crosby, USDA
Dr. Tracy Hoover, Penn State University
Dr. Dave King, Oregon State University
Dr. Susie Whittington, Ohio State University

We are still awaiting word on the fifth member of the external team.

Reminder to hold you calendars for April 20-23. Balschweid asked the faculty if they would like an evening social with the team on Wednesday evening. Consensus was they would like this opportunity. Transportation and other arrangements will need to be finalized yet.

Update on Open Searches –

Agricultural Education-NDE Joint State Specialist – Bell announced we have three candidates which have been approved by the Vice Chancellor to come for interviews. Two others are on the secondary pool. Minimum qualifications were Masters with six years teaching experience. Ph.D. was preferred.

HRTM Tourism – Husmann indicated he was unable to attend the first search committee meeting today; however, he did attend the search committee training this morning. Balschweid reported there are two positions being filled. One position is with Nutrition and Health Sciences and they have 13 or 14 applications. The position with AgLEC has 7 applications. The start of fall semester will be the starting time for these positions.

Agricultural and Life Sciences Communications – Balschweid will report on later in meeting.

International Study Abroad – Balschweid reported for Ellis who is out of the office today. The England trip has 10 students registered for the May 17 – 31 trip. They will have a full itinerary and still are receiving offers of places to visit.

Reorganization – Balschweid announced the plans with CIT are on hold at this time. On December 17 with a meeting the Chancellor they left believing everything was okay to proceed. The three positions were approved and posted on the UNL job line, and then everything was pulled at the request of the Chancellor's office. University Communications believes there is a duplication of effort and until resolved we cannot proceed. Agricultural and Life Sciences Communications program is on hold as well. Fairchild expressed concern about the service center approach and how would it impact various departments. Each department would have a line of credit allocation and those funds would be used first. Extension is one of the largest units who use CIT resources.

Advisory Council – Fleming reported that additional names have been suggested to replace Elaine Stuhr on the Advisory Council and for the third representative for Industrial Technology Education since the January meeting.

Fleming listed three persons as possible successors to Stuhr: Senator Colby Coash of Lincoln, Senator Greg Adams of York and Leigh Wakulinski, loan analyst for the Farm Service Agency at Hartington. After discussion, it was suggested that more background information on the nominees be collected and distributed in preparation for a vote at the March meeting. The motion to postpone this selection until the March faculty/staff meeting was made by Barbuto and seconded by Bell. The motion passed. A motion was made by Barbuto and seconded by Phipps to include Senator Phil Erdman, Agriculture Committee, Chair, and Ag Education graduate from UNL. Approved. Bell moved to close the nominations, seconded by Barbuto. The motion passed.

There were several nominees for the third representative for Industrial Technology Education. One of the nominees was mentioned by a current member of the Council and was recommended by Tom Kraft. Kraft nominated Jodi Wacker of Lincoln Industries. Barbuto seconded the nomination. Bell moved to close the voting. Barbuto seconded the motion. The motion passed. The motion to approve Jodi Wacker as a member of the ALEC Advisory Council passed.

New Business

AAAE Conf – Bell presented the draft of the schedule for the annual meeting of the American Association for Agricultural Education which will be held in Omaha from May 24-27, 2010.

AgLEC or ALEC – Balschweid indicated in the documents submitted to Fleming for the annual review we are using both AgLEC and ALEC acronyms. This is confusing. They need to be consistent. Also, in April 2009 when the ALEC 480 students presented their branding and marketing ideas they recommended we use ALEC. This is the correct acronym for Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication and this is the departmental distinction used in the

class schedule and DARS. Bell moved to use ALEC for the departmental acronym. Seconded by Matkin. Approved.

Announcements – Borck announced we have 8 new students starting this fall. Ag Ed (4), Ag Journalism (1), HRTM (3). New pop-up display, poster and banner stands have been ordered.

Big Red Road Show is February 26 for all admitted students. March 20 – is the Big Red Road Show in Scottsbluff. Today is the deadline to let them know if you are attending this event.

Grants – Balschweid announced the following faculty submitted USDA Higher Education Challenge grant proposals: Husmann (Co-PI) – Comprehensive Beef Education; Barbuto (PI), Pennisi (Co-PI) & Matkin (Co-PI) - Transforming Academic Advising in Colleges of Agriculture; Ellis (Co-PI) – Sub Award with Food Science-Enhancing Interdisciplinary Teams; Balschweid (Co-PI) – Enhancing Science Capacity in Introductory Animal, Plant and Food Science Courses Sub Award.

Ellis also submitted request for two UCARE students.

Barbuto announced April 2, is the Midwest Academy in North Dakota. Six papers will be presented at the Eastern Academy meeting October 14-17.

Master Theses are now in electronic form and being placed on Digital Commons.

Barbuto moves to adjourn the meeting. Matkin seconded. Passed.

Submitted by Kathy Bennetch