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2011

March 11, 2011 - ALEC Faculty Meeting Minutes

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Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication
Faculty meeting Minutes
March 11, 2011

Present:

Present: Cheryl Alberts, Mark Balschweid, Jay Barbuto, Lloyd Bell, Kathy Bennetch, Jason Ellis, Dick Fleming, Karen Gatherer, Dann Husmann, Kurtis Harms, Lisa Jasa, Lana Johnson, Michelle Kang, David Kwaw-Mensah, Dan Moser, Jim King, Sandi Karstens, Bob Losee, Gina Matkin, Brad Mills, Dan Moser, Judy Nelson, Pam Peters, Vishal Singh, Roger Terry, Kathy Bennetch, Travis Searle, Mike Wilmot, Judith Wolfe, and Malika Yadgarova.

Approval of Minutes – Balschweid indicated the January minutes are posted on the “T” drive and were distributed electronically. The minutes are approved as posted.

Old Business

NIFA External Review- All the sub committees have now met and Balschweid will condense all the remarks submitted. Those bullet points will then be submitted back to the department for review, and then to the Deans for review and to make suggestions, and eventually submitted to Vice Chancellor Green.

ALEC in Action Newsletter – A thank you was made to Cheryl Alberts and her team for the new departmental newsletter, *ALEC in Action*. Over 4,300 were sent out. If anyone knows of an individual who should be added to the mailing list, let Kathy know. This is a way to connect with alumni, stakeholders, build relationships with stakeholders, and also build development opportunities.

Advisory Council Nominees – Fleming announced seven nominees to consider for positions on the Advisory Council where there are not currently representatives, i.e., publications, social media. A Communications representative will be added later this fall. All nominees have been contacted. The election process proceeded with Lori Hallowell and Brandon Hunnicutt being selected.

Steering Committee/Strategic Planning- Bell mentioned the following individuals are on the Steering Committee: Balschweid, Bell, Bennetch, Harms, Karstens, Kreifels, Matkin, and Singh. Leadership Resources was selected to be the facilitator. They are committed to the process for the long term (12 months or longer) and have reviewed various documents regarding the ALEC department, IANR, and the NIFA Review. The next scheduled meeting is March 28 with Leadership Resources where the process will be outlined for developing ALEC’s strategic plan.

New Business

ALEC Hospitality Room – State FFA Convention – Everyone is welcome to participate in staffing the hospitality room during the convention. The hospitality room is for the visiting secondary agricultural education teachers and it’s a time to visit with them about updates in ALEC.

Request for G. Bailey – Graduate Faculty Status in ALEC – Balschweid gave some background procedure for granting Graduate Faculty Status. Any request first goes to the P & T committee, if they vote to approve, then goes to the Graduate College and gets ratified as well. Bell reported the Promotion & Tenure Committee recommended Associate level graduate faculty (allowed to teach graduate courses, no vote nor hold any elected office in the Graduate College, serve not chair doctoral supervisory committees, serve on masters committees) status.

Husmann mentioned Vice Chancellor’s Green push for Ag Literacy in the IANR to 2025 committee, and that this will play a major role in this university and will tie with ALEC’s programs in leadership, Ag communication, communication studies and naturally education and believe it would be a good fit.

Sustainable Studies will be a new course and it would be in our favor if ALEC had ownership in this course.

It was moved and seconded to postpone this decision until Fall semester. The vote to postpone passed. It was recommended to invite G. Bailey to the next meeting. King, as chair of the Graduate Committee, will initiate scheduling the meeting with him.

Michael Forsberg – Balschweid announced a unique opportunity was presented to ALEC. IANR administration is very interested in a time lapsed photography project of the Platte River by Michael Forsberg. Michael Forsberg is a photo journalist who is to become an Assistant Professor of Practice (FTE .50, effective January 1, 2011). Most of the Nebraska reservoirs are presently at capacity and the Institute would like to capture this water event data, and then get this information into researcher's hands. Forsberg wants to get this information into the hands of folks that know what to do with it, i.e., producers, environment, economics and the climate. Forsberg will be able to teach classes (photo journalism), and participate in domestic and international study opportunities. EdMedia is also working with NET as partners in this project.

Life Science positions – The Deans Council has approved the lead position (Ellis) as an Associate professor position and a second position (C. Johnsen), as an Assistant professor position (tenure leading).

Committee Reports

March 18, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (Matkin unable to attend, asking for a volunteer to attend in her place.)

King – Fall 2011, Masters (4 accepted). Ph.D. level (3-4). One of the students, Marianne Lorensen, who was offered an assistantship, will be coming to visit on March 31. A reception has been scheduled at 2:00.

Congratulations to Mike Wilmot who was accepted to the University of Minnesota's doctoral program.

ALEC Graduate's Reception is May 6, 2:30 – 3:30 in the East Union.

Recruitment and Retention – Wilmot reported plans to participate in the Nebraska State FFA convention in April. Also, there will be an Ag Ed Luncheon on Friday, and the Ag Educators will take one student who they believe would be a great teacher/Ag Educator. Presently 28 students have been invited.

Presently ALEC is soliciting nominations for a new Faculty Senate representative (Kings retiring). Send nominations to either Balschweid or King.

Matt Kreifels, Team Ag Ed, received an \$8,000 Cargrill Agrosience grant to bring science teachers and agriculture teachers together this summer to work on curriculum.

ALEC faculty submitted grants totaling 1.7 million dollars. Four grants were submitted by ALEC faculty.

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Kathy Bennetch