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ALEC Committee Minutes

Agricultural Leadership, Education &  
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## September 2009 - Staff Meeting Minutes

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**Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication (AgLEC)**  
**Staff Meeting Minutes**  
**Friday, September 11, 2009**  
**311 Ag Hall**

**Present:** Mark Balschweid, Jay Barbuto, Lloyd Bell, Kathy Bennetch, Heather Borck, Jason Ellis, Patricia Fairchild, Dick Fleming, Jennifer Greenlee, Janice Hamer, Dann Husmann, Betty James, Jim King, Tom Kraft, Gina Matkin, Kelly Phipps, Courtney Quinn, Mike Wilmot.

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

*AgLEC Strategic Plan* – Balschweid introduced adding Teaching as a Critical Success Factor to the Strategic Plan. Participants were divided into two groups and given the task of identifying Strengths, Opportunities, and Challenges/Barriers. Discussion and reports from the two groups. Items from the two groups will be turned into Goals, Milestones, Measures.

*Approval of Minutes* – A motion was made by Barbuto and seconded by Ellis to approve the minutes of the August 21, 2009, staff meeting. Motion passed.

*CSREES Review* – Fleming reported the internal work team had their first meeting. For AgLEC's Review, Dr. A. Dwayne Ball has been selected as the APC representative, and Greg Crosby is the USDA representative. The internal work team reviewed nominations from faculty for other members of the Review Team, and a list of possible external members has been forwarded. Guidelines will be provided to faculty as they prepare their e-ARFAs so information will not have to be reformatted for the review document.

*AgLEC Reorganization* – Balschweid announced he and Roger Terry recently met with the Section Leaders from CIT. A social work group is being organized to help us make the transition to one unit. Members from AgLEC are Betty James, Kathy Bennetch, Heath Harding, and Heather Borck. CIT has a Fall picnic every year, and we have been invited this year. It will be held on Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup>. More details will be coming later (it is a potluck picnic). An internal work group will be developed to identify job descriptions for the academic side of this reorganization. Also, a new way of communicating will be developed. The plan is to send one email message per week with news about AgLEC/CIT.

*2009 AAAE Research Conference* – Bell distributed and discussed the final program for the AAAE conference listing discussants and facilitators. The conference begins on September 27.

*International Study Abroad* – Ellis presented information about the study abroad class to England for May 17-31, 2010. This class is being promoted now, and eight students are currently on the list. A \$250 deposit will be required, and the students will register through UNL. Final activities for the class will be planned in January, with an estimated cost of the trip to be \$3,000-\$3,500.

*Announcements* – Balschweid asked faculty to consider the new UNL Global Gateway Program that was just announced. It is an initiative, funded by the NU Foundation, designed to promote

and enhance global competency among students and faculty by creating more global opportunities.

Congratulations to Kelly Phipps, Jay Barbuto, and Travis Searle who have had papers accepted to the October 2009 Midwest Academy of Management conference in Chicago.

Balschweid announced Kem Gambrell has been approved by AgLEC (by email vote) for an adjunct faculty appointment in AgLEC. Also, David Kwaw-Mensah was approved for graduate faculty status. His paperwork has been forward to Graduate Studies for their approval.

Balschweid, Matkin, and Etling will be traveling to Croatia at the end of September through early October. It is an exploratory visit to plan undergraduate and graduate student opportunities for AgLEC majors.

Meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Next staff meeting will be October 9, 2009.

Submitted by Betty James  
September 16, 2009