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2008

April 16, 2008 - ALEC Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

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Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication
Advisory Council
Minutes from Wednesday, April 16, 2008

Council Members Present: Kevin Anderson, Annie Doerr (standing in for Laura Joy), Craig Frederick, David Grimes, Tom Hermance, Dennis Kahl, Karen Kollars, Matt Kreifels, Gayle Starr, Jessalyn Schrock (standing in for Laura Maricle), Bud Stolzenburg, Joana Story, Elaine Stuhr, Tom Tabor, Bruce Williams.

AgLEC Members Present: Leverne Barrett, Lloyd Bell, Jason Ellis, Dick Fleming, Jennifer Greenlee, Jim King, Gail Latta, Gina Matkin, Lisa Pennisi, Alyssa Smola, Dan Wheeler.

Guests: Dana Bailey (via phone), Christin Brown Kamm, Kayla Churchill, Terry Hejny, Kevin Sicner, Samuel Stockton.

Chairman Kevin Anderson called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. Introductions were made.

Membership changes on the AgLEC Advisory Council

Matt Kreifels, Agricultural Educator at Blair High School, succeeds Chad Schimmels, Agricultural Educator at Eustis, who is working on a Master's degree, and found it difficult to attend meetings.

Joana Story, president of the AgLEC graduate students, succeeds Greg Gifford.

Laura Joy, president of the Agricultural Education Club, succeeds Annie Doerr. Laura has class conflicts so Annie will represent her today.

Laura Maricle is the new president of the Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow. She succeeds Ryan Hassebrook. Laura has class conflicts so Jessalyn Schrock will represent her today.

Don Hutchens, director of the Nebraska Corn Board, decided not to seek another term. He felt it was time for someone else to serve on the AgLEC Advisory Council. We appreciate his contributions as a member and as president of the Council.

Update on Department: Dan Wheeler presented some highlights about AgLEC.

Accomplishments:

Enrollment in basic and value-added programs and majors:

Growth and recognition in the leadership program: graduate program 140 students (30 doctoral students)

Leadership minors required in some programs and promoted in others

Continued development in Ag Journalism, Tourism & Parks & Recreation, and undergraduate leadership

Adding of the Industrial Technology Program (Tom Craft)

Preparation of Ag Teachers to meet replacement needs

Students moving into good jobs and careers

Preliminary Strategic Plan 2008-2013 developed

Three grants associated with Teaching and Extension

Continuing to add to knowledge base in various areas in AgLEC-research and applications

Opportunities:

CASNR Leadership Certificate-Linda Moody

ACE courses-New General Education Courses (ALEC 102, 202, 302, 305, 410, 412) – Lloyd Bell consultant

Association for Communication Educator's Leadership Development Project (continuing a second year)-Kelly Phipps coordinator

Country Commissioner Training (with Extension) –Leverne Barrett and Jason Ellis presenters

Challenges:

Faculty to meet program needs (retirements and one person programs)

Use of adjuncts and courtesy appointments especially in undergrad courses

Cooperation with other units (School of Natural Resource Sciences)

Proposing new positions-new department head

Office staffing-one retirement and personnel health issues

Hired a replacement (Jennifer Greenlee) for retirement

New department head will influence future staffing

Generating outside revenue

Research opportunities

Scholarships for students

Contracts

Graduating more Ag teachers to fill positions and provide choices

New relationships-Dort College of Ohio and Wayne State –Lloyd Bell

Hire a lecturer to support teaching program

Departmental Review beginning fall 2008

Integrating Various Programs into AgLEC

New Department Head-three candidates interviewed

50% administrative/ 50% faculty responsibilities

Dan Wheeler retiring June 2008

Update on Student Recruitment-Alyssa Smola gave an update on recruitment activities.

Recruitment Display-work in progress

Updating Facebook-222 friends-provides avenue to info current AgLEC students

Department news letter-will be emailed with highlights of the year

Buzz-Top 10 reasons to be in AgLEC, Club Activities, Note from Faculty

2008 Central Plains Severe Weather Symposium and Weather

Mailings-March 3rd post card to 536 juniors-our majors and our website

April 1st letter to 547juniors-what the department has to offer

Post card-to state FFA degree recipients

Events-State FFA booth

Admitted Student Event

Kearney Career Fair

Other: Industry Technology-8 students currently teaching; have 31 students in IT

Jason Ellis added that CASNR is up--thanks to support from Alumni

Introduction of new director of Nebraska LEAD Program-Terry Hejny: Director of the Nebraska LEAD Program for seven months. He took over for Dr. Allen Blezek.

Introduction to Classroom Simulation Experience-Leverne Barrett-overview of Libertyville. It is an undergraduate Leadership final. The experience simulates a rural community; the characters try to influence their agenda in and around town. It is designed to be used in leadership in the community. Fifty students participate in the simulation. They are evaluated in three ways:

- 1) self-evaluation
- 2) peer-evaluation
- 3) teacher-evaluation

Tourism Program Update-Lisa Pennisi new faculty member in AgLEC and students: Kayla Churchill, Kevin Sicner, Samuel Stockton

HRTM Major: Partnership between CASNR and CEHS

UNL program characteristics: focus on green, tourism for communities that supports environment.

Degree coursework: AgLEC 102, new courses (13 new and revised curriculum)

Changing the core

Changing the options: Ecotourism, Parks and Recreation

Guided Electives

Recruitment Activities: Red Letter days, CASNR Power of Red

Enrollment: 07-08 51 students in the fall

Kayla Churchill presented her project: 2 The Ends of the Earth

Samuel Stockton and Kevin Sicner presented their project: Sandhills Journey

Scenic Byway

Comments/Questions

Extension Program Developments-Presented by Dennis Kahl, Extension Educator and Council Member: Leadership and Entrepreneurship; Update on Leadership Plenty-Core Values and Assumptions:

- People work together
- Effective long term goals
- Build relationships
- Respectfully addresses us against them

New Leadership curriculum

New Extension Leadership program

Comments/Questions

Report on 4-H ESI Curriculum (Entrepreneurship Investigation): Presented by Dennis Kahl: Developed with four audiences in mind: 4-H Clubs, Middle and High Schools, Youth organizations and, Community organizations. Entrepreneurship Investigation (ESI): A Holistic Integration of youth community and careers. ESI website https://nmc-server1.unl.edu/esi_flash/

Comments/Questions

Panel-How Well Do AgLEC Programs Prepare Graduates for their First Position:

Dana Bailey Hall of McCool Junction: 2003 graduate in the Agricultural Education Teaching Option, currently serving as an Agricultural Educator in the McCool Junction Public Schools. Presented via telephone: First year at McCool Junction. Commented on how she is doing and how AgEd helped her. Website for first year teachers, communication is good. Lloyd Bell question: Did AgEd prepare you to work with different students? Answer: Yes. Question from Jason Ellis: What would be one or two emerging trends that you see that new teachers will be facing? Answer: Agriculture is changing all the time; getting out into the community. Thinking outside the box; Reaching out to the non-traditional kids to get them involved. Elaine Stuhr comments: I just wanted everyone to know what good things Dana is doing.

Christin Brown Kamm, formerly of Wisner: 2002 graduate in Agricultural Journalism, Broadcast Sequence, and the Agriculture and Natural Resources Public Relations Option. Following graduation, she joined the Nebraska Department of Agriculture in Lincoln as Public Information Officer, the position she currently holds. Job duties; public concerns. She spoke about Career Day in CASNR day. She was prepared when she graduated. Her wishes: to be able to take Ag-based public relations classes, she used small percentage of journalism classes, major Ag events planning courses, public relations/advertising classes-design classes, more internships-which help you make your decision on what career path you choose.

Comments/Questions

Aylssa Smola spoke on leadership: Two internships is a good idea—event planning would be a good class to prepare you for graduate school—comp class or research class is good.

Brytni Westlake of Kinnear, Wyoming: is a candidate for graduation in May 2008; was not present. Dick Fleming spoke on her behalf: She began her college experience in Wyoming and was attracted to our Leadership offerings in the Agricultural Education –Leadership Option. Miss Westlake enrolled as a junior in Agricultural Education-Leadership Option with a minor in Agricultural Economics. She completed an internship in human resources last summer at Cargill Meat Solutions in Schuyler and will join Cargill following graduation in May. She got involved in the Human relationship program and did internship that lead into a full-time job. The Leadership program helped with this and also her background.

After lunch, Council members proceeded to classroom simulation experience: Libertyville—Barrett came back after simulation for comments and questions.

Kevin Anderson-Dan Wheeler comments and questions:

What is the status of the search for Department Head? Three candidates have been interviewed. Search Committee will meet on April 17, 2008 to discuss.

The Council went on record to thank Dan Wheeler for his service as Department Head.

Members proposed November 5, 2008 for their next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Submitted by: Jennifer Greenlee April 22, 2008