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May 14, 2010 - Staff Meeting Minutes

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**ALEC Staff Meeting
Minutes
May 14, 2010**

Present: Mark Balschweid, Lloyd Bell, Jason Ellis, Kathy Bennetch, Dick Fleming, Jennifer Greenlee, Janice Hamer, Lindsay Hastings, Dann Husmann, Pat Jarecke, Tom Kraft, and Mike Wilmot.

Approval of Minutes - Ellis moved to approve the minutes of the April 16, 2010 staff meeting. Bell seconded. Approved.

Advisory Council – Fleming reported the April meeting was good as we had over half of the members in attendance. Topics shared with the Advisory Council included: reorganization of CIT with ALEC, the various faculty searches, and good discussion on the Industrial Technology Education program. The last 2-3 years have brought change and it impacted how the review team interpreted ALEC programs. The NIFA Review Team appreciated the sessions with the students and this helped tie the programs together. The next Advisory Council meeting is scheduled for October 27.

With the new hiring of Matt Kreifels as a faculty member, Matt can no longer be on the Advisory Council since faculty members cannot serve on the committee. Also, Craig Fredericks was not replaced when he left NDE so there are two positions to fill on the Advisory Council.

External Review Update –

Balschweid indicated now is the time to start preparing for the next review by collecting data that will be needed. Jennifer will be collecting student information into a database and the faculty will need to make sure they give her the information. i.e., graduates, employment, internships. When the final report from the Review Team is received there will be 90 days to document plans to address the recommendations.

Update on Open Searches –

Agricultural Education-NDE Joint State Specialist – Balschweid thanked Bell and the search committee for all of their efforts on this search process. Matt Kriefels has been hired and will start July 1. His appointment is 2/3 in ALEC and 1/3 with NDE. His office will be located in Ag Hall 301D.

HRTM Tourism – Balschweid indicated an offer is being prepared. This person would start in mid August. This position will be dealing with the financial side of tourism, help create new courses and teach HRTM courses.

Office Associate – Bennetch reported an offer has been presented to a candidate. It is hoped to have this person start by the end of the month.

IANR Vice Chancellor – Balschweid announced the last candidate is on campus today and in short order the list will be sent to the Chancellor. Husmann indicated all IANR Vice Chancellor candidate presentations are on the IANR website.

International Study Abroad – Ellis reported the group going to England is leaving Monday from Omaha. They are going to do a photo contest to give them promotional materials. They will also be setting up a blog so others can follow their travels.

<http://unlenglandagcomm.wordpress.com>

Reorganization – Balschweid indicated July 1 is the date for CIT to officially become part of ALEC. This afternoon is the first faculty meeting with the Ag Life Sciences Communications group. This meeting will be for the purpose of getting acquainted. The focus will be on identifying skills and talent base each individual brings to the table with the courses that are currently available and how to integrate them into the curriculum.

Hastings asked if they will be a part of the process from the Review Report. Balschweid stated they will be a part in helping to identify areas faculty and staff will develop and move forward together. Plans are underway to restart the process of developing the departmental strategic plan which will incorporate CIT. This will include ALEC's physical presence and who will be in what location (Ag Hall or Ag Communications Building). Efforts are underway to look at the possibility of having a classroom in the Ag Com building again, and having students be in that building to help CIT staff realize they are now a part of an academic unit.

AAAE Conference – Bell handled out a list of needs for the conference, i.e., van drivers, technology assistance, registration, banner design. Photos are available on the "T" drive of the photo's Dr. Ellis took of the statues around the hotel, i.e. buffalo, wagon trains, geese. If anyone is willing to be a facilitator or moderator, please let Dr. Bell know. Registration count is 195 presently, which is up about 15% from the last conference. Dr. Bell expressed his appreciation of all the support he has received from this department.

Recruitment – Wilmot reported 21 new students for this fall (8 Ag Ed, 4 Ag Jrn and 9 HRTM). Wilmot will be working also this summer (10 hrs week) in June and July to organize all the materials, photos, and files. Also, he will be attending two conference, Nebr Career Education Conf in Kearney and the Nebr Ag Youth Institute in July on east campus.

Grant proposal – Balschweid announced a representative from Saudi Arabia was here the last weekend to visit with administration and UNL had a chance to refine the grant proposal. If approved ALEC will be responsible for providing the curriculum and CIT will produce the curriculum in conjunction with the Food Processing Center.

New Business – ALEC has received two formal requests for Courtesy appointments. The Courtesy appointments first go to the Promotion and Tenure Committee then comes to the full group for approval. Tabled until Fall meeting. Prior to this meeting Bennetch will upload their criteria on the "T" so faculty will have a chance to review before the next departmental meeting.

Announcements - Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Travis Searle on the birth of their daughter last week. Megan Searle joins two brothers in the Searle household.

Jason Ellis is the recipient of the 2010 ACE North Central Region Pioneer Award recipient. The Pioneer Award was originally known as the Frank Jeter Award, named in honor of the late ACE president from North Carolina. The board later changed the name to the Pioneer Award to recognize individuals whose hard work and vision helped establish ACE in 1914. The award honors communicators in each region who demonstrate exceptional leadership and technical skills and make significant contributions to ACE during their early careers (first 10 years of ACE membership).

Congratulations to Greg Gifford, Jay Barbuto and Lisa Pennisi on being nominated as the authors of the Outstanding Empirical Paper Award at the Eastern Academy of Management. Their paper entitled *Development and Validation of a Multidimensional Measure for Workplace Stigma* was presented at the 47th annual meeting May 12-15 in Portland, Maine.

Jay Barbuto has received funding from Extended Education and Outreach for converting ALEC 477/877 *Leadership and Motivation* to a distance delivered course.

Meeting adjourned 10:50.

Submitted by Kathy Bennetch