

Administrative Council for Extension and Experiment Station Research Minutes

Administrative Council for Extension and Experiment Station Research Meeting
Friday, March 1, 2013, 1:00PM-2:30PM
325 Burruss Hall Conference Room

Attendance: Mark McNamee, Stephen Kleiber, Bob Smith, Martin Daniel, Jody Jellison, Thea Glidden, Tim Hodge, Ed Jones, Saied Mostighimi, Alan Grant, Roger Avery, Paul Winistorfer, Ken Smith

1. Welcome and Introductions (Mark McNamee)
2. Discussion Items
 - a. Branding Proposal for Virginia Cooperative Extension
 - i. The new branding proposal for the Virginia Cooperative Extension was presented to the Council in color and monochromatic schemes to include placement on letterhead, business cards, marketing products, webpages, and signage. This is a joint branding venture with Virginia State University. The branding was received with general acceptance from the council and will begin usage in May of 2013 as part of the centennial celebration.
3. Updates
 - a. Virginia Cooperative Extension
 - i. The Virginia Cooperative Extension reported a successful winter conference. An Executive Summary will be distributed.
 - ii. The Extension Leadership Council Meeting will meet this month. A new chair will be elected with plans to reengage the group to strengthen its role in support and feedback.
 - iii. Alan Grant reported on a meeting with NC State to discuss joint agent professional development across the two states. Additional opportunities for possible collaboration include professional development, regional industry needs, coordination on hires and specialties, and joint meetings of AREC Directors located along the state line.
 - b. Agricultural Experiment Station
 - i. Sonny Ramaswamy, National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) Director, will be visiting the VT campus on May 23rd. He will be giving a seminar/presentation at the VBI Conference Center about NIFA priorities. There will be opportunities to meet with students, faculty, and members of 229 Council.
 - ii. Several new plant varieties have been approved for release. Although not well known, general royalties account for a significant portion of total Virginia Tech Institutional Property revenues.
 - iii. There is a potential loss of leased land for the ARECs as many landowners are retiring and seeking to sell land, mostly to developers. However, they are working with Virginia Tech Foundation to purchase some parcels.
 - c. Deans

- i. College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALs)
 - 1. Speakers at the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities (APLU) meeting discussed the FY13 federal budget. The NIFA Director spoke regarding the impacts of sequestration. After the President's proposed budget for FY14 is released in a few months, discussions will resume.
 - ii. College of Natural Resources and Environment (CRNE)
 - 1. CNRE will co-sponsor and participate in the Forestry Summit in Homestead, Florida, April 10-11 and will host a National Diversity Conference on VT campus, June 19-21.
 - 2. NC State has new Dean of Natural Resources and is sending a delegation to VT to explore our activities/programs.
 - 3. The Geospatial Modeling Initiative was not funded in this session. However, the college is investigating options to fund the program including an outside group sponsoring a budget amendment on behalf of the program next session.
 - iii. College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM)
4. Other Business
- a. Tim Hodge reported on Budget Outcomes:
 - i. Mid-year budget reduction was restored for next year's base so it will not impact the 13-14 budget.
 - ii. O&M funding for HABBI – partial year provided but will need to be annualized.
 - iii. Health insurance employer premiums may go up as much as 18% which could have an impact on NGF programs.
 - iv. Impacts of the Affordable Health Care Act changes the number of hours that a wage employee can work to 1450 hours per year. There was an extended discussion of the impact on hourly employees.
 - v. Skelton 4H center waste water treatment funding under DEQ.