

Administrative Council for Extension and Experiment Station Research Minutes

Administrative Council for Extension and Experiment Station Research Meeting
Friday, March 6, 2015, 1:00PM-2:30PM
325 Burruss Hall Conference Room

Attendance: Mark McNamee, Ken Smith, Tim Hodge, Dwight Shelton, Cyril Clarke, Guru Ghosh, Alan Grant, Cyril Clarke, Bob Smith, Saied Mostaghimi, Steve Kleiber, Ed Jones, Brian Benham (guest), Noel Byrd

1. Welcome and Introductions (Mark McNamee)
2. Discussion Items
 - a. Budget/229 (Dwight Shelton & Tim Hodge)
 - i. Dwight reviewed outcomes of 2015 General Assembly session with particular reference to 229 Agency (materials provided). There was a \$6.1 reduction for the university division however, 229 Agency was excluded from the budget reduction. Although the funding for 229 includes salary increases for faculty and staff, this fund does not represent actual anticipated costs.
 - ii. In the capital budget, 229 Agency received funding to complete the Kentland Phase II research facilities.
 - b. Compensation Program (Tim Hodge)
 - i. Tim provided information regarding the compensation program to include the differentiation among personnel categories.
 - ii. Alan Grant discussed the impact of the compensation program structure for extension agents.
 - iii. Dwight Shelton will continue the discussions with Richmond staffers for clarity regarding the 229 faculty.
 - c. Review of Council Compiled Actions for Web Site (Ken Smith)
 - i. The Fornash Report recommended several strategies for the 229 Council. All tasks have been completed with the exception of publicly posting written minutes of council meetings on the 229 website.
 - ii. The minutes have been compiled from July 2012 and are now submitted to the council members for review before being posted publicly. Ken asked that the council review the minutes and provide any/all feedback to Noel Byrd.
 - iii. The minutes will be approved at the next council meeting.
3. Updates
 - a. Virginia Cooperative Extension (Ed Jones)
 - i. The Annual Winter Conference was recently completed. The Centennial celebration was also a success.
 - ii. The VCE is reframing programming to a more integrated, team approach. One benefit of this new programming style will be a federal report that will be more easily understood in terms of activity reporting.
 - iii. Joint Southern Region – VCE and AE Directors will be hosting conference next month.
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 - b. Agricultural Experiment Station (Saied Mostaghimi)

- i. Ranking in NSF moved to 6th from 7th.
- ii. In the process of implementing recommendations from the AES external review.
- iii. Report on Facilities
 - 1. Regarding facility needs/improvements, a comprehensive list was developed that included prioritized needs with costs and timeline.
 - 2. Land constraints continue to impact some ARECs in Eastern VA. Acquired four pieces of land although still not enough which leads to reduced interaction between ARECs and faculty.
 - 3. Eastern Shore – small grains research is particularly affected due to the difficulties involved with long range planning of leased land. A discussion ensued including expansion efforts, the soybean research program, and land ownership that would support on-going efforts versus leased land.

c. Deans

- i. College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALs)
 - 1. Update on federal funding
 - a. Alan Grant discussed APLU funding meeting with delegates. President's proposed budget has some increases for AFRE and other formula lines. Would like to see increases in other programs such as the Mac Stennis Program.
 - b. There was discussion surrounding the increasingly competitive nature of the funding formula lines and the impacts that that could have for ACRE and land-grant institutions in general.
 - c. Provost McNamee asked for an update regarding the dairy relocation. VDOT had some delays due to weather so the date changed from April 25th to May 1st.
- ii. College of Natural Resources and Environment (CRNE)
 - 1. Bob Smith reports there are 2 departments going through reaccreditation with on-site visits next week.
- iii. College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM)
 - 1. Cyril Clarke expressed gratitude for outcomes of capital projects and the continued partnerships that are able to continue. CVM utilizes the Kentland Farms facilities often.
 - 2. CVM is partnering with VP Research to upgrade the Center for Molecular Medicine and Infectious Diseases (CMMID) facilities.

4. Other Business