

229 Council - Administrative Council for Extension and Experiment Station Research Meeting

Friday, April 6, 2018, 1:30PM – 2:30PM

130 Burruss Hall Conference Room

Present: Jeff Earley, Gary Sherman, Alan Grant, Cyril Clarke, Tim Hodge, Stephen Kleiber, Saied Mostaghimi, D'Elia Chandler, Susan Duncan, Mallory Miller, Guru Ghosh, Ed Jones, Paul Winistorfer, Greg Daniel

AGENDA Items:

1. Welcome and Introductions (Cyril Clarke)
2. Approval of Minutes (Mallory Miller)
 - a. Minutes from the March 2, 2018 meeting were provided electronically with the current agenda. The minutes were approved.

3. 229 Merit Process (Tim Hodge)

Tim reported that the General Assembly has yet to pass a state budget. Compensation is important to the state and to the university, however, there is no compensation program for the upcoming year in the proposed versions of the state budget. The university has anticipated the need to support compensation increases.

If the state does not fund a compensation program but a compensation program is implemented by the university using non-general fund sources (primarily tuition), this will be a challenge for Agency 229 since Agency 208 funds cannot be transferred to Agency 229.

Cyril suggested that a subcommittee with representation from the 229 colleges, VCE, AES, and university finance study the challenges and opportunities associated with a university compensation program. The subcommittee will propose high level strategies to the council in a future meeting for review and discussion. The council agreed to form the subcommittee. Cyril will develop the charge for the subcommittee and council members will provide nominations to serve.

3. Updates

- a. Agricultural Experiment Station (Saied Mostaghimi)
 - i. Saied provided an update on the composting facility feasibility study. He asked for representation from the council to participate in a discussion with campus partners on next steps and to prepare for discussions with potential external partners.

- ii. The ANR summit is scheduled for April 10 and 11. Currently there are over 100 participants registered. Participants include a diverse group of industry leaders and university members.
- iii. A multi-institutional grant writing workshop is being developed with the University of Tennessee and University of Kentucky and will focus on the development of a multidisciplinary approach. The workshop will be held in Knoxville, TN from July 25-26, 2018.
- iv. AREC directors meet on campus to discuss potential new budget models.

a.) Deans

- a. Paul Winistorfer reported that Bettina Ring, State Forester of Virginia, spoke at a student run seminar. Ring spoke about her working experience.

CNRE faculty are working on a submission for a Fish Innovation Lab grant due this spring.

- b. Alan Grant provided an update on the School of Plant and Environmental Sciences. The new director will begin in April.

CALS recently hosted speaker Robert Mills. The students enjoyed listening to Mills speak about his experiences with business failures and successes. Mills serves on the BOV and was named 2017 Virginia Farmer of the Year.

4. Other Business

- a. Guru Ghosh reported that the Mahindra Group, one of the largest companies producing farm equipment worldwide, will join the Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center in May.
- b. Gary Sherman reported that an Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) has hired a new reviewer to start this month.
- c. A search for an attending veterinarian is underway.