Administrative Council for
Extension and Experiment Station Research Meeting
Friday, February 2, 2024
1:30-3:00 p.m.
130 Burruss Hall Conference Room

AGENDA

Participants

Steve Kleiber, Alan Grant, Cyril Clarke, Mary Burrows, Paul Winistorfer, Tim Hodge, Jeff Earley, Don Taylor, Dan Givens, Lauren Augustine, Carolina Buscaglia, Elizabeth Cooper, Dan Sui, Ken Miller, Mallory Miller

Welcome and Introductions (Cyril Clarke)

Discussion Items

Approval of Meeting Minutes (Cyril Clarke)

The December meeting minutes were distributed electronically with the agenda. The council reviewed and approved the December minutes.

OSP Post-Award Update (Dan Sui)

Dan Sui, vice president for research and innovation, provided an update on the Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) and discussed the systematic review of the office. The review was triggered due to the growth in sponsored projects, national trends in hiring for pre- and post-award positions, and workflow needs.

Confirmation of Agency 229 Time Allocation Report (Jeff Earley)

Jeff Earley, vice provost for academic resource management, reviewed the Agency 229 Time Allocation Report, which is compiled annually in collaboration with the Agency 229 colleges. The colleges certified the report's accuracy prior to the new year, and the report was approved by the Council.

Unit Updates

Virginia Cooperative Extension (Mike Gutter)

Mike Gutter, director of the Virginia Cooperative Extension, updated the council on engagement activities with stakeholders. Mike provided an update on visits to the districts, one visit is remaining, where stakeholders were asked the same set of questions. The data collected will help inform VCE activities.

Agricultural Experiment Station (Mary Burrows)

Mary Burrows, director of the Agricultural Experiment Station, shared there is an upcoming event dedicated to exposing graduate students to jobs outside of academia and applied research.

Mary also provided the council will an update on new hires and early plans for the Board of Visitors AREC tour in May.

Deans
Alan Grant, dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, shared that the college will welcome a new communications director after Zeke Barlow's departure to the university's central communications and marketing.

Dan Givens, dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine, provided an update on the regulation of charitable gaming and historical horse racing. Dan also shared that Maryland introduced a bill to increase the number of Maryland resident student seats at the college. The college will only increase the number of seats if Maryland pays the current tuition rate.

Dan also provided an update on hiring searches, including the search for a new veterinarian teaching hospital director.

Paul Winistorfer, dean of the College of Natural Resources and Environment, provided an update on hiring searches and renovation projects.

Budget and Finance
Jeff Earley, vice provost for academic resource management, shared that the Provost and COO will tour animal care spaces on the Blacksburg campus this spring to evaluate the need and commitment of resources to support activities.

Tim Hodge, associate vice president for budget and financial planning, shared that the Governor proposed a one percent bonus each year of the biennium for state employees and a one percent salary increase in the second year.

OVPRI (Dan Sui)
Dan Sui, vice president for research and innovation, shared that USDA completed a successful visit last month.

The Provost convened a Virginia Tech Global Distinction steering committee.

The university will host the Times Higher Education (THE) Innovation and Impact Summit in Fall 2025 at the Innovation Campus. The summit topic is "security" and the Research and Innovation Office will work to develop program content in partnership with THE.

Government and Community Relations
Elizabeth Hooper provided an update on Agency 229 budget amendments and the animal research use and care task force being developed at the state level.

Hokie Day is on February 22, 2024, with a reception the night before.

Other Updates
Provost Clarke commented that the ARECS are doing good work connecting with the needs of the communities that they serve. He asked the council to think of ways to connect various parts of the campus (faculty, students, etc.) to the ARECS.