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

AGENDA

Participants:

Alan Grant, Mary Burrows, Paul Winistorfer, Tim Hodge, Margie Lee, Cyril Clarke, Don Taylor, Mike Gutter, Steve Klieber, Patrick Hilt, Dan Sui, Brennan Shepard, Elizabeth Hooper, Rebekah Gunn, Jeff Earley, Mallory Miller

Welcome and Introductions (Cyril Clarke)

Discussion Items

Approval of Meeting Minutes (Cyril Clarke)

The minutes from the February meeting were distributed electronically with the agenda for the council to review. The minutes were approved.

Challenges to Facilities Improvement in CALS (Mary Burrows and Patrick Hilt)

Patrick Hilt and Mary Burrows presented on challenges to facilities improvements in the College of Agriculture and Life Science (CALS). The presentation highlighted challenges caused by university policy and practice. These challenges are felt by all three Agency 229 colleges. Although there are steps being taken to address some of the challenges already; the council discussed creating a task force to review the challenges through the lens of case studies to enable a deeper understanding for the challenges and look for ways to reduce overall time and cost of projects.

State Climatologist (Paul Winistorfer)

The council discussed the organizational structure and responsibilities of the State Climatologist Office, and potential connections with Virginia Tech.

Unit Updates

Virginia Cooperative Extension (Mary Burrows)

Mary Burrows shared that the Virginia Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Conference was held in April. At the conference core values for agriculture research were discussed. AES will compile stakeholder research needs and assess.

Agricultural Experiment Station (Mike Gutter)
Mike shared that planning has begun for the next Virginia Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) Summit. The summit provides an opportunity for stakeholder engagement.

In the coming months, Mike will share a white paper on agriculture and forestry landowner challenges. The white paper is being led by Brian Bond.

System updates are being made to enhance VCE's operations and improve communications with stakeholders.

Mike shared that the university's Commission on Outreach and International Affairs (COIA) has introduced a land-grant engagement concept, which, includes looking at the university's ARECs as a competitive advantage and explores way for VCE to have better impact. Plans will be shared with the council at a future meeting.

Deans
College of Agriculture (Alan Grant)
Alan Grant shared Ben Tracy will serve as the interim director for the School of Plant Environmental Science. A new director will be appointed this summer.

The Board of Visitors will tour ARECs on May 28th and 29th to learn more about the programs.

College of Veterinary Medicine (Margie Lee)
Margie Lee provided an update on the cattle flu and testing procedures.

Tanya LeRoith, director of ViTALS, is now serving as the director of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

College of Natural Resources and Environment (Paul Winistorfer)
Paul Winistorfer provided an update on the Virginia Forestry Summit, which took place at the end of April in Charlottesville. Forest carbon, workforce issues, and value chain were topics of interest.

Budget and Finance (Tim Hodge)
Tim Hodge provided an update on the state and university budget processes and implications for Agency 229.

OVPRI (Dan Sui)
Dan Sui provided an update on the director of Animal Resources and Care.