

Administrative Council
for
Extension and Experiment Station Research Meeting

Friday, October 1, 2021
1:30-3:00 p.m.
130 Burruss Hall Conference Room

Attendees: Mallory Miller, Lauren McKeague, Jeff Earley, Cyril Clarke, Chris Yianilos, Tim Hodge, Paul Winistorfer, Ed Jones, Saied Mostaghimi, Bob Broyden, Ken Miller, Steve Kleiber, Alan Grant, Dan Givens, Dan Sui, Elizabeth Hooper, Don Taylor, Rebekah Gunn, Guru Ghosh

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introductions (Cyril Clarke)

2. Discussion Items

a.) Agency 229 Capital Projects Update and Six-Year Plan Follow-up (Bob Broyden)

Bob Broyden, associate vice president for campus planning and capital financing, provided an overview of Agency 229 capital projects. The overview included:

- Complete capital projects since 2021
- Current projects underway: Kentland Facilities Improvements, Virginia Seafood AREC, and Livestock & Poultry Research Facilities, Phase I
- Future projects; Center Woods Complex and System-wide ARECs, Phase I improvements.

The council discussed strategies to continue to move Agency 229 capital project forward.

b.) THE Impact Rankings Overview and Submission Request (Mallory Miller)

Mallory Miller, project director in the Office of the Provost, provided an overview of the newly created Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings. This ranking assesses universities against the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Virginia Tech participated for the first time in the 2021 ranking last year, resulting in two top 150 finishes and two top 100 finishes globally.

The university is preparing for the 2022 Impact Rankings submission. The Provost noted that the ranking allows the university to showcase sustainability expertise in research, outreach, stewardship, and teaching.

A university dashboard dedicated to progress towards the UN's SDGs will be released this fall, and the 2022 THE Impact Rankings will be released in April 2022.

c.) Agency 229 Carryover Use Recommendation (Saied Mostaghimi and Ed Jones)

The directors are working through Agency 229 carryover use recommendations with the colleges. Recommendations will be finalized and brought to the council for review and approval later this month.

d.) Planning and Progress toward Agricultural Animal Husbandry Units Becoming AAALAC Accredited (Dan Givens)

The council discussed the university's interest in expanding AAALAC accreditation university-wide. The council agreed that it is in the university's long-term, best interest to have university-level AAALAC accreditation. A phased approach that aligns with capital projects may be considered. Additionally, the council discussed the potential need for IT infrastructure upgrades to improve records management. The Provost suggested engaging with a consultant to provide a path forward for the university.

The council discussed in some detail the recent U.S. Department of Agriculture inspection.

3. Updates – Rapid Roundtable Discussion

- a.) Saied Mostaghimi, director of the Virginia Agriculture Experiment Station, reported that the external AREC review is scheduled for this fall.

The new Seafood AREC will be completed in the winter, with an opening ceremony scheduled for March 25, 2021.

- b.) Ed Jones, director of Virginia Cooperative Extension, reported that an urban corridor will be added as the fifth district, effective July 1, 2022. The number of agents will grow and will be located in an existing facility in Richmond.

- c.) Paul Winistorfer, dean of the College of Natural Resources and Environment, reported that state government officials will be visiting the Brooks Center later this month.

Paul also shared solar energy concerns growing within the forestry community.

- d.) Dan Givens, dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine, shared that the college is working with Campus Planning and Capital Financing to advance the small animal hospital.

The college is partnering with the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences on a beef center of excellence.

Kathy Hosig is working on a CDC grant to address COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy.

- e.) Alan Grant, dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, reported that two AREC director positions will need to be replaced.