

Administrative Council for Extension and Experiment Station Research Meeting

Friday, May 3, 2019

1:30 – 3:00 PM, 130 Burruss Hall Conference Room

Present: Ken Smith, Dennis Dean, Alan Grant, Saied Mostaghimi, Greg Daniel, Ed Jones, Steve Kleiber, Sally Morton, John McDowell, Bill Hopkins, Brenda Winkle, Tim Hodge, D'Elia Chandler, Ralph Byers, Keith Coyne, Mike Evans

1. Welcome and Introductions (Alan Grant)
2. Discussion Items
 - a. Approval of Minutes (Mallory Miller)

Minutes from the February 1, 2019 and March 1, 2019 meetings were provided electronically with the current agenda. The minutes were approved.
 - b. Update on Global Systems Science (GSS) Building Plans (Dennis Dean)

Dennis Dean, along with faculty members of the GSS Building Design Team, presented a proposed design for the GSS Building. The GSS Building will be a signature building for the university designed to support GSS activities that are transdisciplinary and will serve as a student gathering place. The design is programmatically flexible and includes; wet and dry labs, computational labs, greenhouses, offices, and a café. The GSS Building design concept emphasizes collaborative interactions.
 - c. Lease Expiration of HRAREC (Saied Mostaghimi)

Saied Mostaghimi reported that the university has communicated its intent to renew the 99 year lease of the Hampton Road AREC property with the City of Virginia Beach. The Council discussed challenges and opportunities associated with the lease of the Hampton Roads AREC, and will continue to consider next steps.
3. Updates
 - a. VCE (Ed Jones)

Ed Jones shared that in April, fifteen Cooperative Extension Directors met at Virginia Tech to discuss the future of extension. The group will continue discussions through the summer and plan to release a report in the fall.
 - b. AES (Saied Mostaghimi)

Saied Mostaghimi shared that as a result of the AREC tour earlier this spring, a draft strategic plan for the ARECs is being developed that will address infrastructure needs. The draft will be presented to the Board of Visitors in June.

The Governor is visiting the South Piedmont AREC. The visit will include a tour and a discussion on the impact of the AREC on the Commonwealth.
 - c. Deans

Greg Daniel shared that a feasibility study of the Vet Med Hospital was completed in March. The study included an investigation of holistic operations and work flow efficiencies. The feasibility study will serve as the foundation for future design plans.

Keith Coyne shared that there are currently eight faculty searches in the College of Natural Resources and Environment.

- d. OVPRI
 - Gary Sherman reported that the Office of Research and Innovation is actively searching for a new Communication Director.
4. Other Business
- a. Future Agenda Items
 - Update on Composting Facility