

Administrative Council for Extension and Experiment Station Research Meeting

Friday, June 7, 2019

1:30 – 2:30 PM, 130 Burruss Hall Conference Room

Present: Alan Grant, Saied Mostaghimi, Greg Daniel, Ed Jones, Tim Hodge, D'Elia Chandler, Ralph Byers, Keith Goynes, Susan Duncan, Cyril Clarke, Gary Sherman, Paul Winistorfer, Ken Smith

1. Welcome and Introductions (Alan Grant)

2. Discussion Items

a. Approval of Minutes (Mallory Miller)

Minutes from the May 3, 2019 meetings were provided electronically with the current agenda. The minutes were approved.

b. 2019-20 Budget for Agency 229 (Tim Hodge)

Tim Hodge reviewed the Agency 229 FY2020 budget. The budget outline, separated into two parts, Agricultural Experiment Station and Virginia Cooperative Extension, was distributed to the Council during the meeting. The Agency 229 FY2020 budget was approved.

c. Update on Smart Farm Project (Saied Mostaghimi)

Saied Mostaghimi shared that the Smart Farm Project is a way to connect rural Virginia communities into the university's activities that are having both national and global impacts. The Smart Farm Project is showcasing agricultural and natural resources' ability to engage in transdisciplinary research and learning and to use expertise to move the industry forward. Saied shared the following updates:

- The Smart Farm Project is gaining visibility through VT News articles, regional radio and print interviews, and presentations are being made to potential stakeholders at regional meetings.
- Conversations with private industry have begun to better understand industry needs and how to leverage disciplinary strengths.
- Faculty have begun to engage in transdisciplinary effects around Smart Farm topics. Institute for Creativity and Technology (ICAT) has funded five proposals. Additionally, there will be a workshop scheduled for winter 2020 focusing on Cyber-Bio Security which will engage the Humes Center and the Commonwealth Cyber Initiative (CCI) group.
- The process to identify gaps in faculty expertise has begun and will be incorporated into upcoming hiring plans.

3. Updates

a. Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE) (Ed Jones)

Ed Jones reported that the Central District Coordinator position has been filled; VCE is fully staffed.

GoVA Region 1 action plan has been initiated.

b. Agricultural Experiment Station (AES) (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.

c. Deans

Paul Winistorfer reported that the College of Natural Resources and Environment is hiring positions to support work associated with industry education.

Alan Grant share that Agency 229 has made positive adjustments to agent salaries.

Gary Sherman reported that administrative restructuring is an ongoing process within the Office for Research and Innovation in order to best support CCI and Innovation Campus.