

Administrative Council
for
Extension and Experiment Station Research Meeting

Friday, April 3, 2020
1:30-3:00 p.m.
By Zoom (details attached)

UPDATED AGENDA

Participants (via Zoom): Greg Daniel, Cyril Clarke, Don Taylor, Ed Jones, Bob Smith, Saied Mostaghimi, Tim Hodge, Ken Smith, Ken Miller, Keith Goyne, Steve Kleiber, Rebekah Gunn, Ralph Byers, Guru Ghosh, Caroline Buscaglia, Paul Winistorfer, Mallory Miller

1. Welcome and Introductions (Cyril Clarke)

2. Discussion Items

a. Approval of Meeting Minutes (Mallory Miller)

Minutes from the March 2020 meeting were provided electronically with the current agenda. The minutes were approved.

b. COVID-19 Updates (Cyril Clarke)

Cyril Clarke provided an overview of the Governor's COVID-19 guidelines for government entities and the university's strategies to align with the guidelines.

Additionally, the group discussed in some detail defining "essential personnel" in terms of research faculty and staff and extension agents in Agency 229. The Vice President for Research and Innovation has a process and policy for defining and establishing "essential personnel" and will work with units to help identify those employees.

Cyril reported that summer session and on-campus summer programming will continue on-line. If summer programming is unable to transition to on-line, the program will be canceled.

The group discussed in some detail 4-H summer programming. Related conferences and forums will be transitioned to on-line. Camps scheduled for the beginning of the summer will be canceled. Planning for camps scheduled for mid-to-late summer will continue and will be modified as needed to meet federal and state guidelines for public health and safety.

The group discussed in some detail plans for the fall semester. The university is currently working through fall semester plans and will communicate the plan of action in the near future.

c. Modification of By-Laws (Ken Smith)

Ken Smith provided proposed modifications to the By-Laws electronically with the current agenda for the council to review. The proposed modifications were related to member title changes.

The group reviewed the By-Laws and proposed modifications. The group recommended that the AVP for Budget and Financial Planning be added to the membership, and the CBO be removed. The issue was tabled until the CBO is consulted.

d. Composting Facility (Ken Smith)

Ken Smith provided an update on the composting facility proposal. The proposal was reviewed by the budget group. The budget group was supportive of the project as an economical way to meet soil nutrient management compliance and to enhance the university's sustainability. However, the group deferred a response for nine to twelve months due to the governor's guidelines on new initiatives.

The group discussed in some detail strategies to manage soil nutrient compliance going forward.

3. Updates

a. Virginia Cooperative Extension (Ed Jones)

Ed Jones shared the progress of shifting programming to on-line platforms and how VCE is staying engaged in the community.

b. Agricultural Experiment Station (Saied Mostaghimi)

Saied Mostaghimi reported that the ARECs are closed to the public.

Additionally, the SmartFarm Innovation Cluster Hire is moving forward with Zoom interviews and is in the final stages.

4. Deans

a. Greg Daniel reported that the College of Veterinary Medicine held a webinar for best practices in dealing with COVID-19 that was well attended and well received.

b. Paul Winistorfer shared that the packaging lab at the Brooks Center is still open and finalizing contractual work.

Additionally, the College of Natural Resources and Environment is continuing with searches for split Agency 208/229 positions.

The Center Woods project approval was postponed.

5. OVPRI (Don Taylor)

- a. Don Taylor reported that the Office for Research and Innovation has a policy for allowable research during the COVID-19 emergency.

6. OVPOIA (Guru Ghosh)

- a. Guru Ghosh shared that the OVPOIA held an on-line town hall and it was well attended and well received.

The Reynolds Homestead anniversary celebration has been postponed to 2021.

7. Government Relations (Rebekah Gunn)

- a. Rebekah Gunn shared that the Government Relations team is continuing to monitor federal stimulus bills and working closely with APLU on university priorities.