

September 10, 2009 Ag Faculty Council Minutes

In attendance: Rick Durham, Laurie Fields, Chris Barton, Ric Besson, Chad Lee, Mike Montrose, Kim Spillman, Mary Roseman, Claudia Heath, and Lisa Collins

Old Business

A. Fall Convocation

There was discussion about the confusion expressed by some faculty about the purpose of the convocation. Should it be about looking back on the year in review or looking forward to goals for the year ahead? The question of inviting staff was discussed. Also discussed was calling it something different than a convocation. It was agreed that the purpose of the Fall Event was to acknowledge new faculty and the hour-long meeting before the all college meeting served as an opportunity for new faculty to get acquainted with each other and with the administrators. It was agreed that new staff should be invited to the fall event as well. "College of Agriculture Fall Kick-off" was suggested as the new name. Also suggested was that we check with University administration regarding reinstating a bus tour of the state for new faculty.

New Business

B. Fall College Faculty Meeting (also known as Dean's Q+A)

October 15th + October 27th are the two dates that all the Deans are available. October 27th was chosen. Time is 3-5 pm at the Good Barn.

C. Website

Kim Spillman, Lee Townsend and Laurie Fields will take on the task of updating the AFC website which needs to be modified to the new COA format. Brooke Stone will offer assistance with Druple, the new programming language. Lisa Collins will fill out the form to Ag Communications. The web committee will report at the October meeting.

D. Rules of Procedure

Rick Durham, Ric Besson, Claudia Heath, and Mary Roseman (Spring only) will act as the Rules Committee. The AFC task for the year is to review the Rules against the Rules Content Template. The Provost has indentified shortfalls that the committee must address and revise. The Rules will then be pre-submitted to the Provost office for acceptability and voted on by the COA Faculty in the Spring. In compliance with the current Rules of Procedure there was discussion regarding extending voting privileges to other persons in the College but there was no motion or action to do so. The committee will report at the November meeting.

E. Discussion

1. Annual Performance Review of Faculty includes new 'rating categories' that clearly state evaluation criteria coming from the Dean.
2. A question was asked about a 20% tax on student fees that are tacked onto courses for field trips. There was discussion about faculty and department liability for field trips that are necessary for educational objectives. It was agreed that the AFC needs more information.
3. **Future meeting dates were approved: October 15, November 12, and December 17.**