

## **Agriculture Faculty Council – September 20, 2011 Meeting Minutes**

Culton Suite, Good Barn

**In attendance:** Brian Lee, Rebecca McCulley, Tom Mueller, Kenny Seebold, Tim Stombaugh, Keiko Tanaka, Lisa Vaillancourt, Cory Walters

**Liaison:** Lisa Collins

**Guests:** Nancy Cox, Holly Swanson, Mark Coyne, Lee Meyer

**Call to Order:** 1 pm

**Order of business:**

1. Minutes from August meeting were approved with no discussion.
2. Dr. Cox spoke gave the Council a brief follow-up to her discussion during the 17 August meeting. Key points were:
  - a. A national grant workshop will be held next year; the College will have some funds to support travel to this meeting.
  - b. Generally, the electronic Internal Approval Form (IAF) has been well-received by faculty and functions well. In the near future, all steps will need to be done in real time before it will be accepted.
  - c. The Ag Business Office has added staff to assist departments with grant-related tasks. Dr. Cox encouraged everyone to take full advantage of the services offered by the Ag Business Office, and to be specific when requesting help.
3. Dr. Holly Swanson, Chair of the University Senate spoke to the Council briefly about the University Review Committee, chaired by her, that was charged by President Capilouto to gather feedback on how the University is fulfilling its missions now, and what should be done in the future to advance and improve in the future. Specifically, Dr. Swanson commended the Council for service as a voice for College faculty, and asked for input on questions that are important for the future of the University (how to approach the next 5-10 years):
  - a. What does it mean to College faculty for the University to be both the Commonwealth's flagship institution AND a land-grant institution?
  - b. How can UK raise the level of excellence in academics, and how can we help improve the quality of incoming students?

Discussion:

  - a. Dr. Swanson said that some feel, that as the Kentucky's land-grant school, all students who apply should be admitted; however, as the flagship institution, we have an obligation to recruit the "cream of the crop". To enhance excellence in academics, we need to bring in the best students possible AND retain them. Within the Council, there were a number who were concerned that the quality of incoming students was likely to go down in the future due to inadequacies in public education.
  - b. Additional discussion focused on strengthening ties with community colleges to help prepare transfer students for the switch to a 4-year program (setting up "pre-degree" programs, etc). Mention was made that Penn State has a good system of interaction with community colleges and could be used as a model. There was some concern about UK's role in continuing education, and that an important community group was being overlooked.
4. Fall Faculty Meeting – Logistics details.
  - a. Meeting will be held on 30 September in Gorham Hall.
  - b. The meeting will be streamed live to Princeton and the Robinson Center.

- c. Brian Lee asked for questions to be submitted to him for the Dean prior to the meeting; these should be submitted by 23 September. The following questions for Dean Smith were put forth by the Council during the meeting:
  - i. What is the status of the BGTC move? How will the space be allocated after the departure from BGTC (Enrollment in College of Ag courses is growing in some cases, and both lecture and lab space are needed)?
  - ii. What is the status of the pedway over Cooper Drive?
  - iii. Can the barriers in place on Veterans Drive be left after the pedway reopens?
  
- 5. New Faculty Workshop debriefing
  - a. Participants in the workshop were polled by Brian Lee, and a number of responses were received (see meeting agenda).
    - i. The workshop was perceived to be useful, but some wanted more detail on the logistics of getting started as a new faculty member. It seems that this process is in place already, but some investigation (Lisa Collins) needs to be made.
  
- 6. Promotion and Tenure Workshop
  - a. Lisa Vaillancourt reported that the workshop was set up and ready to go for the 23<sup>rd</sup> of February, 2012. See attachment for details.
  
- 7. New business: none.

**Adjourned:** 1:50 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Kenneth Seebold  
Secretary, Agriculture Faculty Council