College of Life Sciences Faculty Association meeting Minutes for OCTOBER 20, 2015

Present: Sam Doak, Andrew Nielson, Catherine Larochelle, Rob Grange, Dean Alan Grant; visitor: Susan Gill
Absent: Jon Vest

I. Call to Order – Sam
II. Susan Gill – update on CALSFA website; soon to be transferred to different template; Susan will add information for now.
   a. Suggestions: look at staff association site; links in main navigation on left site
   b. Clean up content – provide a word doc for Susan to change
   c. Emphasize benefit of CALSFA – why you should care; images plus bullets to drive the message home!
   d. Increase text size re: Faculty and Staff
   e. Track visits – Susan can provide this information; including how individuals; post bar graph total faculty; #visits
   f. Promotion
   g. Use Insights; link on Insights (have our own section)
   h. Need to be more than just archival
   i. Special Events
   j. Meetings – dates and deadlines
   k. Speakers-post talk for others to read
   l. Communications.CALS.vt.edu – request changes to our website
   m. Should provide links to the various governance committee websites from our website

III. Approval of minutes from 9-15-15 meeting: Motion Nielson; 2nd Doak. Vote for approval: 4-yes; 0-no; 0 – abstentions

IV. Dean update
   a. Fund raising campaign envisioned within a year at VT > $1B; multiple years; 2022 – 150th year anniversary; idea of Charlie Phlegar – new VP for Advancement/Development. CALS goals will be set for the college – priorities for raising funds. (e.g. scholarships, facilities etc.) Donations from faculty, alumni, corporate partners. I suggested money be allocated as endowment to support faculty salary increases because the state is not anting up; burdens the university, college, and departments. Need this support to stay competitive.
   b. New Provost Thanassis Rikakis: identify Destination Areas – so VT is identified with those areas (e.g., autonomous systems); will help raising funds for Advancement; What will these be – broadly discussed; e.g., One Health; Intersection of energy water and food; feedback requested by Provost once the ideas are posted on his website – likely within a week. These areas will be used to invest new resources – new degrees, new majors etc. (Provost from Carnegie Mellon – see their site).
c. President Sands: Beyond Boundaries – long term vision of VT in 30 years: what will our students look like, faculty needs etc. Visit Beyondboundaries.vt.com to view the ideas; can enter our own ideas as well. Faculty Senate will provide opportunities for faculty to meet with planners to provide feedback. Think Boldly. (biomedical research)
d. National Capital Region also requires thought; Close to Washington and our funders – can we leverage this close association; can we have a campus in Washington??
e. School of Plant and Environmental Sciences – planning currently under way; recent meeting to share information (Departments combining are Crop and Soil; Horticultural; PPWS).
f. Human and Agricultural Biosciences Building _II (HABB_II) – to be built for the new school (on University Capital Plan); but designated for Crop and Soil Environmental Sciences as the school not yet formed. Idea of the new school is driving great interest; currently #2 on 229 capital funding plan; early stage of drafting pre-proposal.

V. Treasurer’s Report –
For July 2015 – through Sept 30, 2015:
- No withdrawals for the current period
- No deposits for the current period

Balances as of 09/30/15:
Primary Share [savings] = $367.06  - [includes YTD dividends of $0.27]
Freedom Checking = $669.19

VI. Old Business –

a. Andrew: nominations/elections; still need a representative for Athletic Committee – filled; Holly Scoggins
b. Andrew: will update procedures for nominations/elections in the CALSFA bylaws; be prepared to discuss at next meeting – still drafting
c. Andrew: will set up CALSFA Dropbox and invite officers – Catherine will share the folder
d. Sam: would like to know if adding information to the Dropbox – will go to all officers.

VII. New Business
a. Goals:
   i. Website
      1. Sam/Catherine CALSFA Goal for year: update website (will seek assistance from Susan Gill for posting. Catherine responsible for forwarding items to Susan – see notes above
      2. Past minutes will be posted – ok
      3. Rob will forward approved minutes for 2015-2016 to Catherine for posting – 9-15-15 minutes were approved and Catherine will post
   ii. P&T information for new faculty – provide food/drink (cost$) – cross department P&T members to indicate similarities and differences
iii. Event to raise $: likely in the Spring: home brew contest, wine tasting; encourage social interaction across college faculty – Andrew, potentially held at HABI; Sam will seek out information in preparation for this event
iv. CALSFA committee: improve articulation of our purpose

VIII. Other Business
a. Andrew and Susan Sumner—interaction between CIDER and faculty; will provide summary to new faculty (abridged, but faculty can seek out additional details from CIDER.

b. Andrew updated the committee on the University-wide Inclusive Teaching series sponsored by the Diversity Development Institute/UOPD, the Center for Instructional Design and Educational Research, and Networked Learning Initiatives

IX. Motion to Adjourn Catherine; 2nd Rob – so moved.