**­­College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Faculty Association**

**Meeting Minutes**

**2/21/2016**

**8:30 in 104F Hutcheson**

Call in information: 1-866-842-5779 Code: 5402314152

Attendance: Jon Vest, Sam Doak, Catherine Larochelle, Alan Grant, Rob Grange, Jennifer Jones

1. **Called to order: 8:35 am by Jon Vest**
2. **October minutes approved with revisions; November minutes to be updated by Jennifer and sent out for review**
3. **Dean’s Update**
   1. State budget-the Governor proposed a 7.5% reduction in the proposed budget in the fall; then dropped it to 5% reduction in December; agency 208 and agency 229 were both affected. Now the house and the senate have said no reduction to agency 229. The senate currently wants a 5% cut for 208 and nothing for agency 229.
   2. Dr. Grant is promoting the Agriculture and Natural Resources Initiative and demonstrated that we cannot cut 229 because it assists with the state economy growth (an initiative of the Governor)
   3. ANR initiative-the college is being required to prepare a report to show how state funding can grow the economy
   4. There is no Fiscal Year 2017 federal budget yet-hopefully it will be available by the beginning of April
   5. The Board of Ag Assembly for APLU is taking a new approach to increase federal funding and formula funds for FY 2018
   6. Destination areas and strategic growth areas both have stakeholder committees that are meeting currently; a lot of the committees throughout other colleges are requesting rfps for those areas to propose new research collaborations, curricula, and new faculty hires. University wide there may be up to 25 new faculty positions to assist with destination areas and strategic growth areas. Colleges may be able to use those faculty hires and coordinate their own college level hires to leverage more and create a larger impact on the college
   7. Rob asked about EFARS progress? Our college is funneling all of our concerns to Joe Hunnings
   8. Rob asked about the budget model? There is a new budget for 17-18 and then we will use that budget to adjust and revise the current model. There should be new funding that can be used to feed growth in the individual colleges using the new budget model
4. **Treasurer’s Report**
   1. There is currently $2000 in the VT Foundation Fund-all departments and the college have donated their parts; there is also $466 in the checking account that can be used to fund new endeavors. After those are funded, we can ask Beth for reimbursement from the VT Fund to the CALSFA checking account
5. **Old Business**
   1. Coffee with CALSFA
      1. can we still do this? Can we incorporate CIDER? Canvas? TLOS? IT?
      2. Rob says his junior faculty wants more mentoring-his department is working to set up a faculty mentoring program within the department
      3. Does the college have a “support group” for new faculty? Could we use this event as the start of that?
      4. Jennifer will reserve Litton Reaves 1810 from 10-2 for whichever date
      5. Jon will get Red Rooster coffee from Floyd
      6. We will also need to purchase fruit, muffins, carol lee donuts, bagels
      7. There are 30-40 new faculty members within the last few years so we hope to have at least 20 faculty attend the event
      8. We will need to have tables set up with different individuals for faculty to visit with signs describing the department or person
      9. Who could man a mentoring table? BSE has one. Mary Lee Wolf and Janet Rankin could be points of contact-Rob will ask Janet
      10. TLOS-Dale Pike could be a contact, but we should contact Neal Vines first to see his suggestion about some options
6. **New Business**
   1. There is a 5-year review for a department head upcoming-we need a CALSFA member to be a part of the committee-Rob Grange and Catherine Larochelle are both willing to participate. Alan Grant will look at the total committee and determine who will be a better fit for it
   2. Calendar Year Document-Jon would like to start setting up this document for the next president in line at the March meeting
   3. Website progression-website is up to date, but Jennifer would like to add a space to advertise upcoming events
   4. There are new positions on college committees coming open for the 2017-2018 year. There is also a need for a CALSFA secretary/treasurer. How do we plan to advertise? We generally send out an email calling for self-nominations. Once CALSFA learns what positions are open, we can look at who may be a good fit in our respective departments.
   5. Will we be continuing our end of the year beer garden? Previously it has been the Monday after graduation 4-7 pm. Sam will contact Bryan to arrange the venue at HABB1
   6. Next meeting dates through end of year:
      1. March 21-104F Hutcheson
      2. April 18
      3. May 23rd (adjusted due to scheduling conflicts at end of year). New committee and CALSFA members should be in place May 1.
7. **Meeting adjourned: 9:40**