CALSSA Minutes 26 January 2016

Attendance sheet signed, 9 attendees, no previous minutes to approve.

Staff Senate Report - Jon Wooge reports that next week there will be an article in the VT daily news requesting that staff join various committees on campus. He will be the contact and the article will be repeated several times.

The next CALSSA meeting is scheduled to be February 23 and the "Deans/Department Heads get-together" is scheduled to be 2 March at the Hahn Pavilion. A motion was made, seconded and voted to not meet on February 23 since the meeting with the Deans and Department Heads will be on March 2. Departmental administrators are supposed to publicize it and invite their staff, with new staff particularly encouraged to attend.

Secretary position - Pris Sears will be filling in for secretarial duties, in addition to VP for CALSSA.

Staff workshop:
Stephanie Slocum wrote a letter to send to the dean to get clarification on questions about the purpose of the workshop and when it should be held.
The workshop will probably be held in July (21 July tentatively) and the Ag. picnic will be in August.
Two possible keynote speakers have been contacted, Paul Wesselman and Rhonda Sharf. They are expensive to have come, $5k or more, and no final decision has been made. Two other names that have been mentioned are Dixie Dalton (Southside Virginia Community College) and Jewel Hairston (Virginia State University).
Dean Grant liked the idea of having the AREC directors come and give "6 years in 10 minutes" presentations on the exciting projects going on around the state. This would be the first part of the day, following the Dean's welcome speech.
In the afternoon, there will be a keynote speaker and team building exercises.
Additional ideas suggested include inviting Buzz Williams (men’s basketball coach), the new football coach and the Hokie Bird, and asking Marc Edwards, the VT electrical engineering professor who led the water testing in Flint Michigan, if he would come speak. The Virginia Government Employee Association representative could also be invited, if not to the workshop, then to a CALSSA meeting.
The HR department does team building workshops on request, and the Conflict Resolution group also has workshops available, these are options for the afternoon activities.

Venue:
The staff workshop may be moved from the previous years' location to the Alpin Stuart arena near campus. It will be easy to get to and easy to park. It is currently not booked on 21 July, someone needs to contact David Linker to get more information or book the site.

Catering:
The Block and Bridle club does catering and has a good reputation. They may not be available in the summer, someone needs to talk to them. There is interest in having VT Ag clubs involved as much as possible, the Dairy Club could provide ice cream, and the Ag Econ club's BBQ is always popular with non-vegetarians.

We need to send out a "save the date" notice as soon as possible so people can plan ahead to attend the workshop.