Dr. Grant called the meeting to order at 8:35am with a welcome to everyone.

Council members present: Craig Woods, Anna Taylor, Susan Sumner, Jody Jellison, Pris Sears (representing Velva Groover), Saied Mostaghimi, Jamie Lucero, Thea Glidden, Jerzy Nowak, Stephen Kleiber, Renee Boyer, Mike Ellerbrock, Mary Christian, John Galbraith, Ed Jones, and Alan Grant.

Council members participating via phone: Rob Grange, Margaret Merrill, Kim Edmonds, and Steve Rideout.

A motion was made by Mike Ellerbrock to approve the agenda. It was seconded and approved.

A motion was made by Renee Boyer to approve the minutes. It was seconded and approved.

Dr. Grant thanked Renee Boyer for her commitment to the CALS Faculty Association and the Governance Council. He also thanked Sheila Norman for all the preparations for the meeting.

Committee Reports:

Committee on Academic Program Policy:
Mike Ellerbrock gave the report for this committee. He stated that they have had discussions regarding 1) Peer Teaching Review Policy, 2) CLE Draft revisions; 3) CALS Scholarship and the impact of distribution to need based students, and 4) Decentralization of the OpScans.

CALS Curriculum Committee:
Anna Taylor reported that the committee meets once a month. They have reviewed and forwarded to governance: 9 new graduate courses, 1 revised graduate course, 1 new graduate certificate, 9 new undergraduate courses, 3 revised undergraduate courses, 2 revised minors, 5 revised options, 2 discontinued options (CSES), and 2 new options (CSES).

CSES changed their major name from Crop and Soil Environmental Sciences to Crop and Soil Sciences, and two option name changes from: Agroecology to Agronomy, and Biotechnology and Genetics to Crop Genetics and Breeding.

There were two new undergraduate courses reviewed at yesterday’s meeting that will be moved forward to governance in early fall, 2013.

Committee on Extension and Research Program Policy:
Ed Jones reported that the committee has not met yet.

Committee on International Program Policy:
The committee has 18 members; 17 identified and one (Agent Faculty) to be nominated by VESA. Our first meeting took place on December 18, 2012. The discussion focused on the role of the Committee and on the short-/mid-term priorities. Facilitation of the expansion of the study abroad program (student recruitment, integration of international components into curriculum, identification of sources
of funding, inclusion of the information on study abroad during students/parents orientation sessions, and expansion of the international destination opportunities) has been identified as the number one priority. We are also in the process of setting up the Research and Development activities section on the CALS International Programs website. Departmental representatives and other members of the Committee will provide current status of the international programs activities in their administrative units in the near future. The members of the Committee will also actively participate in the preparation of the Deans’ Forum on “Global Engagement” planned for March 25-27, 2014. The forum will involve the entire Virginia Tech community and nationally/internationally known speakers and artists. The next Committee’s meeting will be held early May, 2013.

Updates from Dean and Associate Deans:

Research
Saied Mostaghimi stated that this is the recruitment season for graduate students and there is a new process for GRA Assistantships being distributed to departments.

Extension
Ed Jones reported that there is a new graphic identity for Virginia Cooperative Extension which will be launched soon. Also, district program leadership teams have been implemented to help mentor agents and specialists.

Academic Programs
Susan Sumner reported that the Transfers-in-the-Know program is on campus today and there are about 40 students. Jamie Lucero reported that on May 1, CALS and the Alumni Organization will be hosting an event in the Ag Quad for graduating undergraduate and graduate students and to also welcome them to the Alumni organization. Susan reminded everyone of the plant sale on April 26-27.

CALS
Alan Grant reported on the Dean’s Forum to be held on April 23. At the forum will be discussions on the IGE (Integrated General Education), updates from Research, Extension and Academic Programs, state and federal budgets, and the Online Masters program in Ag & Life Sciences.

New Business:

Renee Boyer discussed the membership of the Council and the CALS Faculty Association’s (CALSFA) responsibility in electing members. It is proposed that under Article IV, Section 1. Composition of Council and under Article VI, Section 8. Committee on Extension and Research Program Policy and Section 9. Committee on International Program Policy, that “One non-agent A&P faculty elected by the non-agent A&P faculty” change to “One non-agent A&P faculty elected by CALSFA”.

This proposal will be carried forward to the next meeting.

Adjourn: Saied Mostaghimi made a motion to adjourn; Jerzy Nowak seconded at 9:05am.

Respectfully submitted
Sheila Norman, Recorder