

CALS Governance Council Minutes
February 21, 2017
311 Latham Hall

Alan Grant called the meeting to order at 2:30pm with a welcome to everyone.

Council members present: Isaac Magaña, Tom Thompson, Thea Glidden, Stephen Kleiber, Brian Benham, Pris Sears, Ben Tracy, Mike Lambur, Scott Greiner, Joe Hunnings, Inga Haugen, and Cathy Sutphin, and Sandra Gabbert

Council members participating via phone: Margaret Kenny, Jon Vest, James Anderson, and Maria Balota

Approval of the Agenda:

A motion was made by Mike Lambur to adopt the agenda; seconded by Inga Haugen; approved.

Approval of the Minutes

A motion to approve was made and seconded by Ben Tracy; approved.

New Business:

None

Committee Reports:

Committee on Academic Program Policy:

Mike Denbow was unable to attend.

CALS Curriculum Committee:

Ben Tracy informed the group that the last meeting was held on January 25th. There were eight proposals with the most significant one being the first Pathways minor. The minor was approved along with three other associated courses. The February 23rd meeting will have ten proposals up for approval as well as a review of the revised Environmental Sciences check sheet.

Committee on Extension and Research Program Policy:

Mike Lambur stated there were no issues to discuss.

Committee on International Program Policy:

James Anderson reported via phone:

Study tour to Morocco, sponsored by the OMALS Program. Faculty: James Anderson and Jennifer Jones.

Study tour to Ecuador, sponsored by CSES. Faculty: Ozzie Abaye

Tom Archibald: chief of party for USAID ERA Project.

Ozzie Abaye:

1. Establishing a research program on nutritional aspects of mung bean consumption, with HNFE graduate student (Taylor Vashro) and partner USAID project (Yaajeende).

2. Co-facilitating a workshop on experiential learning for 18 agricultural faculty members from five universities (with Dr. Amadou Ndiaye, faculty member at University Gaston Berger of Saint Louis).
3. Facilitating a practical experiential learning session on the topic of grassland and pasture management with ISFAR agricultural faculty and students.

VT faculty who have been or will be involved in ERA this fiscal year include:

- Tom Thompson
- Larry Vaughan
- Doug Pfeiffer
- Rick Rudd
- Donna Westfall-Rudd

Rick Rudd: Scoping mission to Egypt to establish partnerships for upcoming RFP.

CALS Diversity Council:

Isaac Magaña reported the council held a mini-retreat in January.

A women's panel event will be held this spring concentrating on the private sector instead of the public sector. Diversity awards are being worked on by the council.

A new group has appeared, CALS Inclusive Teaching group, and would like to work with the Diversity Council in some way. More to come regarding the involvement.

Dr. Michael W. Twitty will be on campus March 16-17th and speaking with the Diversity Council on the 17th.

Faculty Women of Color in the Academy National Conference will be held in April and the council offered to pay for registration for students that wanted to attend; there were two interested students.

The council will meet again in March.

CALS Library Update:

Inga Haugen reported that Thursday, March 2nd will be the Data Refuge beginning at 6pm in Newman Library.

A new Health Librarian position will be posted soon.

An author event will be held on Monday, February 27th at 4:30pm in the MPR Room of the library.

Renovations are ongoing to the physical spaces in the library. Currently the library is only able to accommodate 5% of the student body. Due the renovations the library will be moving the books. Please use the recall or request button to locate books in order for the librarians to know what resources are most needed. Books now will be sent out via campus mail instead of student runners. E-resources are maintained first.

Two new studios are opening in March, the Data Visual Prototyping Studio and a Virtual Environment studio.

There is a two year backlog for extension publications.

Updates from Dean and Associate Deans:

The General Assembly is still in session in Richmond until February 25th. The Governor had requested a 5% reduction to state agencies however, the House and Senate eliminated this for Agency 229. The budget also has monies marked for faculty/staff raises in July. The Senate would like to provide faculty with a 2% raise and a 3% raise for staff. The House would like a 3% raise across the board however, this would not be fully funded by the state, the university would be partially funding.

Academic Programs

The College Spring 2017 Commencement will be Friday, May 12 at noon in Cassell. Expect about 900 students to participate in the ceremony.

The renovation of FST 27 into an active learning classroom is complete. The classroom will hold 68 students. The college has first priority to schedule classes in the room so please let Susan know if you have a class you would like to teach in the new room.

Virginia Tech had over 27,000 freshmen applications. The college had 1700 applications. On February 20, the university mailed acceptance packages to 10,000 potential new students. 677 of those packets went to students who applied to our College. The next set of acceptance packets will be mailed on March 20. The college and departments are now starting yield activities. These activities include; college ambassadors writing postcards, email messages from the college, email messages from the departments, phone calls from student ambassadors, phone calls from faculty, Facebook live events, and letters from alumni. The goal is to have 593 freshmen enroll in the fall in one of the college majors. We also hope to have 140 transfer students join us in the fall.

Spring Break is March 4 through 12.

Research

Saied Mostaghimi was unable to attend.

Virginia Cooperative Extension

Joe Hunnings reported the Program Teams met Monday and Tuesday. There are 11 teams that provide leadership to the broad spectrum of programming that we have in cooperative extension.

The winter conference was done via WebEx this past Wednesday and Thursday. There were a total of 60 workshops available with over 50 presenters across the two days. There will be some in service activities planned for later in the year.

Mike Lambur reported that an ASO was offered to field staff/faculty and 21 people will be retiring. Ed Jones is working on how to determine how the positions will be filled if and when the funds become available as well as ongoing responsibilities.

CALS International Programs (CALSGlobal) Update

- Dr. Thompson reported that he is in the middle of his “road show”, sharing the vision and ideas for International Programs (CALSGlobal) with every department.
- The message
 - We are branding international programs as “CALSGlobal”

- Vision: CALSGlobal will Build partnerships, Create opportunities, and Empower success...to serve globally
- The goal is to have a structured and transparent way for CALSGlobal to invest in international initiatives.
- To this end, we are proposing four structured programs:
 - Faculty partnership program
 - Faculty opportunity program
 - Faculty scholar program
 - Student opportunity program
- I was in Israel recently, and among my activities was exploring partnerships.
- Exploring partnerships:
 - ACE on Sustainable Agriculture and Agribusiness Management (Egerton-Kenya)
 - Hebrew University of Jerusalem Faculty of Agriculture
 - Exploring an internationally-focused partnership with an agribusiness company
- Have met with individual or teams of faculty regarding ideas for international initiatives
- We have scheduled two information sessions on Fulbright and Boren awards for CALS students and faculty, in March. Details forthcoming. Student session will be March 22.

Alumni

None

CALSSA

The Dean/Department Head luncheon will be on Tuesday, March 28th in the Alphin Stuart Arena.

A motion was made to adjourn and was seconded; approved.

Crystal Tawney, Recorder