FACULTY MEETING MINUTES

Date: 6/21/12
Meeting started: 2:00 PM
Meeting adjourned: 3:45 PM

Attendees: Amy Alexander, Fredy Altpeter, Barry Brecke (Polycom), Luke Flory, Bill Haller, Ken Langeland, Theresa Martin, Greg MacDonald, Yoana Newman, Ken Quesenberry, Joao Vendramini (polycom)

General Announcements:

Year end funds were allocated, but we do not have a new budget yet.

Incidental funds (181, 182) will now be assessed ~1.4% versus the current 11.95%. **UPDATE:** Royalty funds (A-FSEED) assessments will be covered by the Sr. Vice President.

Upcoming Field Days are listed on the Agronomy website. The Perennial Peanut Field Day has a link to a registration site. There is no fee to attend, but it’s a nice site and registering helps to know head count.

McCarty Moves – projected end of July or 1st of August, so expectation is we’ll move around mid-August. Existing furniture in Newell will be made available for faculty use as Administrative Suite will be newly furnished for consistency.

Business Items:

World Food Crops Breeder: IFAS is still supportive of this position, so Dr. Quesenberry will be pursuing this again. **UPDATE:** approval received to form search committee.

Status of BRU: Dr. Quesenberry announced that because IFAS will not take the Brooksville/STARS facility, BRU will not be lost.

Faculty Promotions: Dr. Vendramini and Dr. Altpeter both had their promotion/tenure approved.

Forage Worker Tour: August 2-3, 2012. Dr. Vendramini will send more information to everyone about this.

Crops Field Day: Dr. Brecke announced this would be on August 14 at WFREC, Jay.

Dr. Vermerris to transfer from Agronomy:

- Dr. Vermerris request to transfer to Microbiology, and the Sr. Vice President agreed. **UPDATE:** This is effective as of July 6, 2012
- Dean Hayes is working on a letter with details of the specifics relative to space, etc. **UPDATE:** Letter has been completed and routed for appropriate signature.
• Ana Saballos position is technically a sorghum breeder, so there was concern that if this position moved, it would hinder professional development. This position will remain in Agronomy, but be paid by Dr. Vermerris.

• Questions relative to space and/or royalties had already been raised, and this would be detailed in the final transfer letter.

• Dr. Quesenberry asked faculty to let him know whether they would agree for Dr. Vermerris to maintain Graduate Faculty status in Agronomy.

Parking spaces for faculty:

• Currently, Department pays $21,000 to maintain 7 parking spaces.

• Dr. Quesenberry solicited feedback about whether this was a reasonable expense for the department. His opinion is that it is not, and he likely will eliminate this moving forward.

Department Chair Search Committee

• Dr. Quesenberry asked for suggestions for the search committee. Dr. Ferrell had nominated Tim Wilson as a County Extension representative. Cindy Sanders was also suggested as a County Extension Representative

• Dr. Quesenberry asked how faculty would like for him to proceed, and it was suggested that he send out names and ask for faculty to vote.

• The question was raised about whether a commodity person should be included. The feedback was that during the last search a commodity person was on the committee but had limited involvement. Additionally, it was not clear whether they add value due to their lack of knowledge about the academic world.

Forage Breeder Position (LBR):

• This is part of the legislatively funded LBR that provided recurring funds for new faculty hires.

• Dr. Kenworthy has agreed to serve as Chair for the search committee

• Dr. Quesenberry needs additional members for the search committee, and Dr. Altpeter and Dr. Blount were suggested.

• Will try to get a local cattleman to serve on the committee, and Dr. Quesenberry asked Dr. Geoff Dahl to provide an Animal Science person to serve. It was suggested that possibly an industry person could be included as well.

• Startup funding for this position will be from the salary savings generated from now until position is filled and funding possibly includes a technician.

University of Honduras Student Visit and other Plant Science information:

• Amy Alexander announced they will be visiting October 14, 2012

• Scheduled to tour several facilities around Florida (ECHO-NGO Seed Saver Group, SWREC, and RCREC, Animal Kingdom’s Hort Unit, etc.).

• One day on campus and one day at the PSREU.
• Seminar and meeting with Grad and Undergrad students
• Amy Alexander announced that on July 16, there would be 350 outstanding scholars on campus (Reitz Union). She needs pictures and any other items/information that you may want her to distribute to these students.

National Comprehensive Review

• Report was sent out, so please provide any comments to Dr. Sollenberger. Dr. Sollenberger and the review committee are preparing a response report.

Morrill Act Celebration

• Dr. Quesenberry would like Agronomy to do something during this to showcase our program. He suggested an open house on a football weekend, but he would like ideas and suggestions from faculty as well.
• Dr. Haller suggested that we take advantage of the display that would be used in DC as it is already planned to be set up for Homecoming weekend. **UPDATE:** Dr. Quesenberry learned from Dean Balser that the entire display will go to the Museum of Natural History.

**Administrative Items:**

• Theresa indicated issues related to payroll – please be sure your employees are inputting their time correctly (using 15 minute increments, not exceeding their max hours in a week) and that you’re approving timely. With the transition to the HUB, reminders and other special tasks that Paula does may not be continued there, so it’s important that you find ways to remind yourself.

Visit to new Agronomy space was conducted at the end of the meeting.

Meeting adjourned