

CALS Governance Council Minutes
September 19, 2017
311 Latham Hall

Alan Grant called the meeting to order at 9:30am with a welcome to everyone.

Council members present: Inga Haugen, Erin Smith, Mary Christian, Stephen Kleiber, Isaac Magaña, Mike Lambur, Neal Vines, Susan Sumner, Vernon Meacham, Scott Greiner, Pris Sears, Catherine Larochelle, Susan Duncan, Tom Thompson, and Sandra Gabbert

Council members participating via phone: Maria Balota, David Langston, and Rachel Grosse

Approval of the Agenda:

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

Approval of the Minutes

A motion to approve was made by Saied Mostaghimi and seconded by Inga Haugen; approved.

New Business:

None

Committee Reports:

Committee on Academic Program Policy:

New chair has not been selected yet. No report

CALS Curriculum Committee:

Susan Sumner updated the council on behalf of Dave Winston.

The CALS Curriculum Committee has reorganized for the new academic year. Dave Winston (Dairy Science) is the new chair of the committee. Other members are: Catherine Larochelle (AAEC), Donna Westfall-Rudd (ALCE), Mike Denbow (APSC), Rich Helm (BCHM), Linda Granata (FST), Alex Niemiera (HORT/SPECS), Jacob Barney (HORT/SPES), Heather Cox (HNFE), Lisa Jones (HNFE), and Madlyn Frisard (HNFE). Erik Ervin (AP Office) is ex-officio and Anna Taylor (AP Office) provides administrative support.

The committee will hold its first meeting of the semester on Wednesday, September 20. Additional meeting dates are set for October 18, November 15, and December 13. Meetings are held starting at 3:00pm in 1810 Litton Reaves.

Currently, there are 25 course proposals for review.

Committee on Extension and Research Program Policy:

No committee meeting. Mike Lambur is in the process of filling vacant positions.

Committee on International Program Policy:

No report. The chair, James Anderson, has left the university. The committee will appoint a new chair.

CALS Diversity Council:

Isaac Magaña mentioned the September 8th VT Daily News announced the CALS Diversity award winners.

#CALSunited will be held on October 10th beginning at 11am. This event used to be the Diversity Showcase. The message will be how the college will be coming together to support diversity.

November 28th event

There will be criteria changes to the service award to clarify the importance of staff submitting nominations.

There is progress being made on setting up the scholarship committee for the council.

Isaac asked how to update and who was in charge of the VA Agricultural Association for Extension Agents Board in Hutcheson Hall. Discussion began on this topic.

CALS Library Update:

Inga Haugen introduced the new HNFE librarian, Erin Smith.

Inga was able to visit Southern Piedmont, Eastern Shore, and Tidewater ARECs to assist with librarian instruction.

There is a new library website. Also, slides from the ARECs will be digitized. 3D printing is offered in the library and is free.

Updates from Dean and Associate Deans:

Alan Grant updated the council on the new department head for Agricultural and Applied Economics, Dr. Matt Holt. He comes to us from the University of Alabama. Dr. Holt has worked at several land-grant universities in the past and is excited to be back at another land grant university.

The search for the director of the School of Plant and Environmental Sciences is still underway. Our top candidate from the previous search chose to stay at his current position.

Dean Grant asked Vernon Meacham to update everyone on new hires in Advancement and Communications.

- Amy Painter – Communications Manager
- Tim Skiles – Creative Services Manager
- Julie Crichton – Web Manager

The new fundraising campaign began July 1st.

Academic Programs

2017 incoming class

594 freshmen

128 transfer students

63 two-year associate

Applications for class of 2018 are due December 1 for freshmen. This is earlier than previous years (previously January 15).

Expect a busy year for the development of new courses for the pathways for general education.

In summer 2017, the renovations to classroom 200 in Litton Reaves were completed. This collaborative teaching space will hold 40 students. The classroom is now a general assignment classroom (scheduled by the university), but the departments in the college have the first opportunity to request this room for a class.

On September 11, Stephanie Slocum joined the academic programs office as an educational support staff member.

Research

After 19 years Bob Pitman, director of the Eastern Virginia AREC, will be retiring on January 1, 2018. Dr. Susan Duncan is chairing the search committee.

Dr. Pete Schultz, Hampton Roads AREC, will be stepping down as the director on January 1, 2018. An interim director will be identified soon.

HBCU Summit will be held on October 15th and 16th to enhance collaboration between faculty and students. The morning of the 16th CALS will have a program at HABB1 for those attending due to association with our college. Twenty-three faculty have registered to date with the student deadline being tomorrow, September 20th. The program will include tours including labs, drone presentations, a welcome from the dean, etc.

Delmarva Initiative – 6 institutions; Dr. Duncan is our representative. A Call for Proposals is out with a deadline of the end of October.

Phase I of the grant writer's workshop on proposal development was successful with 65 participants. Phase II coming soon.

Virginia Cooperative Extension

No report

CALS International Programs (CALS Global) Update

Tom Thompson updated everyone on initiatives, partnerships, and other items.

Initiatives

- Faculty Partnership (travel grants): Second round of awards has just been made. Two faculty will travel to Argentina, and one to Russia

- Faculty Opportunity: This faculty development program will be the major CALS Global Initiative, targeting early-career faculty for global engagement. Details will be announced in about one month.
- Global Scholars: One CALS faculty member, experienced and successful in global engagement, will receive a stipend and international travel funds for a project of significant scope. Details will be announced in November.
- CALS Global interns: One intern, a CALS graduate student, worked with CALS Global during summer 2017. A second intern (CALS undergraduate) is working with us during the 2017-18 academic year.

Partnerships

- Most recent development with World-Bank funded African Center of Excellence for Sustainable Agriculture and Agribusiness (CESAAM), Egerton University in Kenya. An MOU was signed and will offer some excellent possibilities for CALS faculty and student engagement as well as research funding.
- “Food and Water for a Changing World” with the Hebrew University of Jerusalem has been developed and fund-raising will begin soon.
- Discussions with a major agribusiness company about an initiative focused on animal source foods for better human nutrition have begun.
- Partnering with a DC-based non-profit on a farmer-to-farmer program in Mongolia. The second of several CALS/VCE volunteers is now in country.

Other

- CALS Global and Women and Gender in Development in OIRED have invited Dr. Wanjiru Kamau-Rutenberg, director of African Women in Agricultural Research and Development (AWARD), to campus for a speaking engagement within the next six months with faculty and students.
- Partnerships are being investigated in India and Uganda.
- Welcome to Nicole Martin, who will work with CALS Global and for Dr. Ed Jones.

Alumni

No report

CALSSA

No report

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rachel Grosse stated the VESA would be hosting the international Agricultural Conference in 2020.

A motion was made by Mike Lambur to adjourn and was seconded by Inga Haugen; approved.

Crystal Tawney, Recorder