

College of Life Sciences Faculty Association meeting Minutes for OCTOBER 20, 2015

Present: Sam Doak, Andrew Nielson, Catherine Larochelle, Rob Grange, Dean Alan Grant; visitor: Susan Gill

Absent: Jon Vest

- I. Call to Order – Sam
- II. Susan Gill – update on CALSFA website; soon to be transferred to different template; Susan will add information for now.
 - a. Suggestions: look at staff association site; links in main navigation on left site
 - b. Clean up content – provide a word doc for Susan to change
 - c. Emphasize benefit of CALSFA – why you should care; images plus bullets to drive the message home!
 - d. Increase text size re: Faculty and Staff
 - e. Track visits – Susan can provide this information; including how individuals; post bar graph total faculty; #visits
 - f. Promotion
 - g. Use Insights; link on Insights (have our own section)
 - h. Need to be more than just archival
 - i. Special Events
 - j. Meetings – dates and deadlines
 - k. Speakers-post talk for others to read
 - l. Communications.CALS.vt.edu – request changes to our website
 - m. Should provide links to the various governance committee websites from our website
- III. Approval of minutes from 9-15-15 meeting: Motion Nielson; 2nd Doak. Vote for approval: 4-yes; 0-no; 0 –abstentions
- IV. Dean update
 - a. Fund raising campaign envisioned within a year at VT > \$1B; multiple years; 2022 – 150th year anniversary; idea of Charlie Phlegar – new VP for Advancement/Development. CALS goals will be set for the college – priorities for raising funds. (e.g. scholarships, facilities etc.) Donations from faculty, alumni, corporate partners. I suggested money be allocated as endowment to support faculty salary increases because the state is not anting up; burdens the university, college, and departments. Need this support to stay competitive.
 - b. New Provost Thanassis Rikakis: identify Destination Areas – so VT is identified with those areas (e.g., autonomous systems); will help raising funds for Advancement; What will these be – broadly discussed; e.g., One Health; Intersection of energy water and food; feedback requested by Provost once the ideas are posted on his website –likely within a week. These areas will be used to invest new resources – new degrees, new majors etc. (Provost from Carnegie Mellon – see their site).

- c. President Sands: Beyond Boundaries – long term vision of VT in 30 years: what will our students look like, faculty needs etc. Visit Beyondboundaries.vt.com to view the ideas; can enter our own ideas as well. Faculty Senate will provide opportunities for faculty to meet with planners to provide feedback. Think Boldly. (biomedical research)
- d. National Capital Region also requires thought; Close to Washington and our funders – can we leverage this close association; can we have a campus in Washington??
- e. School of Plant and Environmental Sciences – planning currently under way; recent meeting to share information (Departments combining are Crop and Soil; Horticultural; PPWS).
- f. Human and Agricultural Biosciences Building _II (HABB_II) – to be built for the new school (on University Capital Plan); but designated for Crop and Soil Environmental Sciences as the school not yet formed. Idea of the new school is driving great interest; currently #2 on 229 capital funding plan; early stage of drafting pre-proposal.

V. Treasurer’s Report –

For July 2015 – through Sept 30, 2015:

- No withdrawals for the current period
- No deposits for the current period

Balances as of 09/30/15:

Primary Share [savings] = \$367.06 - [includes YTD dividends of \$0.27]
 Freedom Checking = \$669.19

VI. Old Business –

- a. Andrew: nominations/elections; still need a representative for Athletic Committee – filled; Holly Scoggins
- b. Andrew: will update procedures for nominations/elections in the CALSFA bylaws; be prepared to discuss at next meeting – still drafting
- c. Andrew: will set up CALSFA Dropbox and invite officers – Catherine will share the folder
- d. Sam: would like to know if adding information to the Dropbox – will go to all officers.

VII. New Business

- a. Goals:
 - i. Website
 - 1. Sam/Catherine CALSFA Goal for year: update website (will seek assistance from Susan Gill for posting. Catherine responsible for forwarding items to Susan – see notes above
 - 2. Past minutes will be posted –ok
 - 3. Rob will forward approved minutes for 2015-2016 to Catherine for posting – 9-15-15 minutes were approved and Catherine will post
 - ii. P&T information for new faculty – provide food/drink (cost\$) – cross department P&T members to indicate similarities and differences

- iii. Event to raise \$: likely in the Spring: home brew contest, wine tasting; encourage social interaction across college faculty – Andrew, potentially held at HABI; Sam will seek out information in preparation for this event
- iv. CALSFA committee: improve articulation of our purpose

VIII. Other Business

a. Andrew and Susan Sumner– interaction between CIDER and faculty; will provide summary to new faculty (abridged, but faculty can seek out additional details from CIDER.

b. Andrew updated the committee on the University-wide Inclusive Teaching series sponsored by the Diversity Development Institute/UOPD, the Center for Instructional Design and Educational Research, and Networked Learning Initiatives

IX. Motion to Adjourn Catherine; 2nd Rob – so moved.