

Extension Educator Council Meeting Minutes
November 8, 2006

Present: Alice Mullen, Geoffrey Njue, Lisa Townson. Visitor: Jim Grady

Merit/equity distribution

We met with Jim Grady and discussed the 1.5% merit/equity distribution plan. We discussed feedback we had received and the advantages and disadvantages of the various options that were possible.

COLSA (College of Life Sciences and Agriculture) reorganization (Alan)

The COLSA reorganization committee has recently come out with a second version of the document sent to us by Mike Sciabarrasi in September. The next step is a series of “investment meetings” where all COLSA faculty are invited. The idea is to identify programs program areas in 3 categories:

- those with **high chance of growth** & return (research funding \$, student numbers, etc),
- those with **moderate** chance of growth
- those with **low chance of growth** (and probably lower investment of resources)

These meetings will primarily be in November, and will help direct the organization/structure. At the November 2 COLSA mtg, interim President Bonnie Newman basically said we have a clean slate to propose reorganization that makes sense to us; doesn't necessarily have to follow the plan announced in May by departing President Hart.

September minutes

We reviewed and approved the minutes of the September 13 EEC meeting, with minor corrections.

Notes from President's Staff Meetings

Alan attended the Sept 27 meeting. The use of social security number for univ ID purposes is under review. SSN is used to identify instructors for each course listing, students who sign up for each course, registrar's office, borrowing library materials, cat's cache, etc. This represents a security risk, but the university needs some unique number to identify people for these and other purposes. Final recommendation is due by the end of this academic year.

UNH is planning the move to next version of MS windows: MS Vista. Vista hits the business market this month; public market Feb 07 or later. It has new security features, dramatic changes, but incompatibility issues with files created with earlier software. Hardware upgrades will also be necessary.

Alice attended the October 25th meeting. Prejudice on campus was one subject discussed. There are still signs that it is more common than we'd wish, and some students/employees are less sensitive than they should be. Channel 11 “live fit” shorts are being broadcast now. They compliment some of extension's work on fitness and healthy lifestyles. UNH-Manchester is doing more outreach with organizations, hoping to develop more internship opportunities. Trustees have approved a major project with Turnkey landfill, creating a pipeline to bring Turnkey's methane to campus for heating buildings. Negotiations with the faculty union are now at impasse. “Work to rule” applies now, so certain committee tasks that don't directly affect teaching will not be addressed until agreement is reached. Apparently this is not stopping the COLSA reorganization

efforts. UNH is working to increase the endowments to the university. They are also planning to replace the president of the university foundation.

Alice met with Jason Brodeur to discuss PAT/EE/OS council retreat in January. One possible focus of the meeting might be less understood structures/functions of UNH. Lisa asked if there might be a “virtual” benefits fair, since off-campus staff have limited opportunity to attend the annual benefits fair. It would be good if there were some opportunity (on line? another event?) to learn about employee benefits.

Alice will be meeting with Chris van Horn about the spring awards and recognition meeting. Recently these events have begun in the morning, and were followed by lunch. Then the honorees are given the rest of the day off. Chris proposes doing the event as a breakfast meeting, so people really have more time off (event has been getting over at 1:30 or 2PM). We discussed that off-campus staff would have a harder time getting to an early morning meeting, and extension staff don’t really benefit from the “afternoon off” the way hourly staff do.

SPCC meeting (Systems Policy and Personnel Committee)

UNH has come up with a new emergency plan. There is a major update of the communicable diseases section. There is an on line site <http://www.unh.edu/emergency/> and a recently published booklet. Some procedures don’t apply much to those housed off campus, but would apply when they visited campus.

New Officers: We will need to select new officers. Alan and Karen’s terms are ending in December. Alice will step down as chair of EEC. Tentatively, we discussed Alice asking Matt to consider chairing EEC, Alice to serve as SPCC representative, Geoffrey to serve on awards committees, Lisa to serve as vice-chair.

Meeting times: Alice suggested the second Wednesday (mornings) of the month for meetings; she will try to book Taylor Hall conference room for those times.

We briefly looked at the EEC blog site on Alice’s laptop computer. Access is via intranet (using the standard login & password), then click on blogs and forums. Once at the EEC blog, those wishing to write something on the discussion forum (Scuttlebutt) must register the first time you visit.

Adjourn