

Extension Educator Council
November 12, 2008

Present: Julia Peterson, Nancy Bradford-Sisson, Sharon Cowen, Lisa Townson, Geoffrey Njue, Chuck Hersey, Jim Grady

The meeting was called to order by Julia at approximately 9:15 in Taylor Hall.

September minutes were approved with the addition of needing a date for the tri-council retreat in January; the previous date did not work for Family and Youth EEC members.

Administration

Jim reported that budget updates and county roundtables with staff and John, Jim, and Paul have been going on.

In terms of the budget, UNH-CE will know financial targets from the state in May or June; administration is now thinking about the 2010-11 budget. One problem with budgeting is that the cost of fringe benefits has increased to 46% of salary per employee. Also, the number of grants UNH-CE is receiving is the same as in previous budgets, but the size of the grant dollars is smaller. There is enough money in reserves to cover everything, but with the increase in benefits and salary costs, there could be a shortfall in 2011 with level funding from the state.

Grant-funded programs through USDA are increasing but are harder for UNH-CE to compete. Grants are becoming more competitive; UNH-CE will need to use more multistate funding.

HRA account (\$500 mitigation) – employees on Civil Service Federal Health Plan are not currently eligible to receive this account. Nancy will take this to the SPPC meeting on November 20.

New UNH flexible work policy – No formal teleworking arrangement is needed for educators, unless an educator wants it (i.e formal arrangement to work at home every Friday). However, educators need to use online calendar schedules to show where they are working, be accountable for where they are, and available when needed. Also, through the reporting system, staff must be fully accountable for time worked.

Election Results

Geoffrey Njue – Natural Resources Educators
Malcolm Smith – Family and Youth Specialists

2009 officers (1 year term) will be approved in January.

EEC/SPPC recommended the Civil Unions Policy to President's Council in October, followed by going to the Trustees who adopted the policy. HR will send to employees.

Other information –

EEC minutes need to be posted on the web. Lisa will no longer be on EEC so we need to establish another contact to do that.

Healthy UNH – the goal is to reduce costs for health care in the university budget. Sharon Cowen is the EEC representative.

Board of Trustees – Council chairs were invited to present what is going on. Julia presented information about the increase in COA stipends and recommendations for adoption parental leave policy.

Chuck Hersey will be the EEC liaison to the Recognition Committee as a non-voting member.

January 2009 meeting – Tri-council retreat; EEC will update bylaws and 2009 goals.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by

Sharon Cowen