

IANR Liaison Committee

Meeting Notes

Thursday, April 17, 2014

10:00am-Noon

Nebraska East Union, Bluestem Room

Via phone: Bob Wilson

In Attendance: Jiri Adamec, Julie Albrecht, Leslie Crandall, Angela Pannier, Ellen Paparozzi, Gary Zoubek, Associate Vice Chancellor Ron Yoder

Ballot from Nominating Committee

- The committee reported that they have agreed (with a motion from Ellen, second from Angie, and approval from all) the forwarded ballot was not an equitable geographic representation for the state. They will request more nominations from areas not represented and offer to assist the Nominating Committee in soliciting nominations. ACV Yoder agreed and suggested the committee send a note to the Nominating Committee. (Linda Arnold has since facilitated this communication.)
- The Liaison Committee mentioned updating the bylaws to indicate that the ballot should represent a more equitable representation of the state. Currently the Bylaws state:

3.2.1 Liaison Committee. *This Committee shall meet with the Vice Chancellor at least quarterly and represent the faculty as an advisory group to the Vice Chancellor. Additional duties are specified in this document. A committee of seven shall be elected from members of the faculty, excluding administrators as defined in 2.1.1, 2.1.2, and 2.1.3. Two candidates shall be nominated for each position. The candidate receiving the larger number of votes shall be elected for a three-year term. An elected member of this committee is ineligible for immediate reelection to this committee. A tie vote shall be broken by action of the Liaison Committee. Interim vacancies of elected positions shall be filled by the Nominating Committee through appointment of an eligible person to serve the remainder of the term.*

3.2.2 Committee on Policy for Appointment and Promotion. *The committee will advise the Vice Chancellor on procedures and policies relating to selection, appointment, promotion, evaluation, and other personnel actions throughout IANR. This committee is concerned with development and oversight of policy and procedures and abridgement of policies or procedures for promotion and appointment. The process for appeals for promotion or tenure is outlined in the IANR Guidelines for Promotion and Tenure and does not involve this committee. The committee shall consist of seven members elected from the IANR faculty, excluding administrators as defined in 2.1.1, 2.1.2, and 2.1.3. Two candidates shall be nominated for each position. The candidate receiving the larger number of votes shall be elected for a three-year term. An elected member of this committee is ineligible for immediate reelection to this committee. A tie vote shall be broken by action of the Liaison Committee. Interim vacancies of elected positions shall be filled by the Nominating Committee through appointment of an eligible person to serve the remainder of the term.*

3.2.3 Nominating Committee. *The Nominating Committee shall provide eligible candidates for election of members to the Liaison Committee and the Committee on Policy for Appointment and*

Promotion. The Nominating Committee shall also appoint certain interim committee members as stipulated in 3.2.1 and 3.2.2. The Nominating Committee shall consist of nine faculty members, excluding administrators as defined in 2.1.1, 2.1.2, and 2.1.3. Members are appointed by the Liaison Committee giving consideration to the appointee's work location and academic background. Members shall be chosen from the following divisions/units: two from the Agricultural Research Division; two from the Cooperative Extension Division; two from the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources; and three at-large representatives. Members of the Nominating Committee shall serve three-year terms; the Liaison Committee annually shall appoint three new members. The Nominating Committee shall seek broad faculty representation by giving consideration to diversity, the candidate's work location, division/unit of IANR, and academic function. A member of the Nominating Committee is ineligible to have his/her name placed on the ballot.

- ACV Yoder clarified that the Liaison committee should vote on 3 new Nominating Committee members. They do not need to be the nominations received from the Nominating Committee.

Road Scholar Tour

- Leslie reported that the latest list shows 37 people registered. She suggested a reminder email be sent to those that registered. Leslie will give Murd the pick-up and drop-off details at Grand Island before this reminder goes out. ACV Yoder reported that VC Green will attend the first 2 days of the tour. Zaneta reported that Jill Brown will most likely be in attendance.

Revolving Account Tax

- ACV Yoder gave a short update on the 5% tax on auxiliary account revenue. The definition of revenue is still under discussion. The tax will be implemented beginning July 1. The frequency of the assessment is still under discussion with the upper administration, i.e., monthly, quarterly, or annually. A form/questionnaire will go to each unit head to collect information in a standard format about accounts that should be considered exempt from the assessment. Ellen mentioned that some are concerned about the tax being assessed on lab fees and that effect trickling down to the students.

Resource Optimization Task Force

- ACV Yoder reported that the Resource Optimization Task Force is active and has had 2 meetings. Working groups for each of the 4 areas- land/facilities, state wide administration, IANR administration, and technology/media – have been identified. Two members have been added to the task force – Linda Boeckner (food and people), Mark Kuzila (natural resources). The 4 working groups are now in the detailed working phase. The charge for all working groups (and the Task Force) is to consider how to use IANR resources most effectively. Each working group's recommendations are to be firmed up by the end of May, and the entire Task Force will put forth the complete set of recommendations by the end of June. ACV Yoder will send an update to the entire IANR at the beginning of May. Once recommendations are made, another survey will be sent to the IANR as well. These are only recommendations, and this is not a decision-making body. After the recommendations have been completed there will also have time for feedback from involved constituencies. Announcements will come as decisions are made; there

will not be implementation of any recommendation without an opportunity for both internal and external constituents to comment.

Budget Discussion

- The group had a short discussion about the salary raise pool, which will be a 2% pool instead of 3% because 1% will be used to meet the budget shortfall. The hope is that as enrollment increases, there may be an opportunity to restore the 1% to salaries..

Meeting Frequency

- Ellen moved to change the schedule of meetings to September, November, February, and April, and the group approved. The chair could call additional meetings as needed. Ellen will be the chair for next year.

Future Topic - Infrastructure Changes

- The group discussed briefly the changes occurring on East Campus/NIC. Some future concerns are about transportation between campuses, scheduling courses, cafeteria access, and international students. ACV Yoder mentioned that when a new residence hall is in place, food service will be changed to meet the demand from the students on East Campus. Fall of 2017 is the goal for occupancy of the new residence hall on East Campus. A lack of commercial food options on both campuses (East, NIC) was discussed as well.

ACV Update

- ACV Yoder reported that VC Green has put together a blog communication that will go out relative to budget and reallocation. (The blog was posted on April 17, 2014 and can be found at <http://ianrblog.unl.edu/?p=525>) In the blog he addresses feedback about EdMedia's operating budget. There was a meeting with VC Green, other administrators, and the EdMedia staff the day that the budget was made public. At that meeting VC Green shared the "how and why" of the budget decisions. On the cost recovery model – some units of EdMedia have not met the cost of operating as well as some others. One of the task force work groups is looking at how technology and media can be structured to best serve IANR. This will likely result in some positions being eliminated. IANR is aware that the interim time before the plan is finalized is uncomfortable for the staff of EdMedia, but wants to move slowly to ensure the correct decisions are made. The Task Force is evaluating technology/media needs being met centrally, retained in IANR, or outsourced.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45am.

Recorder: Zaneta Hahn

Distributed electronically to the IANR Liaison Committee for review: 4/29/2014

Distributed electronically to the IANR Faculty: 5/1/2014

There are no more upcoming meetings for Spring 2014.