MEETING NOTES

IANR Liaison Committee
Friday, January 17, 2014
10:00am-Noon
Nebraska East Union, Sunflower Room

Via phone: Leslie Crandall
Excused: Ellen Paparozzi
In Attendance: Jiri Adamec, Julie Albrecht, Angela Pannier, Robert Wilson, Gary Zoubek

IANR Roads Scholar Tour
- Murd updated the group on tour details, including bus rental, spots available, and timing of invitations (which she will send out). The committee still has to decide which members will be attending the tour. Murd will check on dietary restrictions as well. There was a discussion on stops to pick up out of town attendees. Gary can do some guiding commentary along the interstate. A question was posed as to where the last boxed meal on May 14 should be picked up. The committee decided Kearney rather than Broken Bow. The committee asked if a supply of snacks from the VC Office could be given again.
- When Dr. Green arrived, Bob gave an update and asked for approval on the draft schedule. Dr. Green gave his approval. He shared a conversation he had at the ABN meeting regarding the ABN summer tour. At the meeting this week there was discussion on how to handle the ABN summer tour. Dr. Green mentioned the Roads Scholar Tour at the meeting and invited them to join the tour. He does not know how that would pan out. Some of the leaders of the ABN may attend all or part of the tour.

MAS Program (possible available funds for course development and advising)
- MAS is the Masters of Applied Science program. John Markwell is in charge of this program, but Ronnie thinks it has been in place for some time. The committee asked if John could come to a meeting to give a brief of the program. The question was posed to Gary at the Faculty Senate Luncheon. Concerns amongst faculty are that there don’t seem to be any funds. Possible agenda item for next meeting.

NU Grants Program
- There is concern about industry grants. Timeline and turnaround time for some grants doesn’t allow adequate time to use the funds. Dr. Green shared that David Jackson should address this issue. Contract grants can also have this problem. The issue is on industry supported funds – there seems to be excessive lag on the front end (approval process) until the funds become available. Dr. Green indicated he will look into this issue and why it takes so long to get through the system.
**President Milliken’s Resignation**
- The committee asked for Dr. Green’s thoughts on President’s Milliken’s resignation. Dr. Green shared that he was aware of the possibility, but was still surprised at the timing and destination. He thinks it caught the institution generally by surprise. It’s unfortunate, and we are losing a great leader.

**ActivityInsight**
- There is growing frustration amongst the faculty. People feel they spend too much time working with the system and are having all kinds of frustrations. It doesn’t feel like any of the recommendations from last year were addressed. Several new faculty members have really struggled with the system and have spent a lot of time just getting information entered. People are spending 15-20 hours on this. Uploading is not simple. Field entry is time consuming.
- Dr. Green responded that the challenge is the entire University was switching and we therefore had to switch to it. Our website doesn’t have the ability to go in and search for a faculty member and pull up a CV. ActivityInsight was supposed to create consistency. This time of year is a challenge as annual reviews are happening as well. When we evaluated this 2 cycles ago, a test group gave feedback. It didn’t seem to reveal all of these issues. The group pointed out a few improvements, but these problems didn't come up. The committee suggested that if administration wants feedback, they should get faculty input now instead of 2 months from now. They also shared that some faculty just don’t report because the time spent is too high. A summary statement and CV should be enough.

**Revolving Account (tax or fee)**
- Dr. Green opened by stating that this policy should be resolved soon. This has been an open discussion in the Leadership Council since July. What will likely be finalized is that all auxiliary accounts will have an overhead charge applied to them at a consistent level across UNL. This is not currently the case. The percentages are not consistent at this time. The Chancellor wants to be consistent across the board on all accounts. That impacts us substantially. Besides Athletics, IANR has some of the most sizeable accounts. If a 5% overhead assessment is placed across the board, we would have to go back and assess true overheads. Right now each account is being assessed to see what we will have to do on the other side to re-compensate the account back to make sure it is not double-charged. The impact should be much lower if managed correctly. 5% is on top line revenue. Julie mentioned that some services will have to raise rates to cover that 5% and asked what the overhead is used for. Dr. Green stated that the overhead assessment pays for central campus processes. Central resources are very tight. Athletics is going to a full 5% recovery rate. That creates a problem administratively because all accounts are not at 5%. The business centers will talk to each person that has an account. Dr. Green has guaranteed the Unit Admins that we are not going to strap accounts. Gary shared that uncertainty has led to concerns, until a decision has been made by administration. Dr. Green is not worried about this process. Impact to our programs will be appropriately managed. He would be worried if there was a total dollar
amount being transferred to another account at the University. He will address it
publicly when the policy is finalized. (Since this meeting, Dr. Green has asked for a series
of “Town Hall Meetings” to be scheduled where he will update the faculty on this matter.
Murd Holland has been working with Gary Zoubek to schedule these meetings.)

New Hire Discussion
• Dr. Green mentioned the new hires of phase 1 have been enormously successful and
have great diversity, which will be beneficial for students.

Meeting adjourned at Noon.
Recorder: Zaneta Hahn
Distributed electronically to the IANR Liaison Committee for review: 2/3/2014
Distributed electronically to the IANR Faculty: 2/7/2014

Upcoming Meetings:
   Tues, Feb 18, 10:00am-2:00pm (Dr. Green joins at 11:00am)
   Mon, March 17, 2:00-4:00pm (Dr. Green joins at 3:00pm)
   Thurs, April 17, 10:00am-2:00pm (Dr. Green joins at 11:00am)