College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
Faculty Executive Committee
Friday, March 18, 2016, 2:00pm-3:00pm
Minutes

Present – Mary Delany, Sue Ebeler, Deborah Golino, Linda Harris, Alan Hastings, Ed Lewis, David Mills and Ron Tjeerdema

Absent – Patrick Brown, Zhe Chen, Adam Contreras, Helene Dillard, Ben Houlton, Kalen Kasraie, Emilio Laca, Ermias Kebreab, Toby O’Geen, Alison Van Eenennaam and Huaijun Zhou

Guests – John Eadie and Francene Steinberg

Chair Alan Hastings opened the meeting of the Faculty Executive Committee (FEC).

Consent Items
A motion was made and seconded to approve the consent calendar: the minutes from the January 29 meeting and the proposed Earth Systems Science major. The motion passed unanimously.

Executive Council
Co-chair Dave Mills gave an update on topics discussed at the recent Executive Council meeting. Items of concern mentioned by the Academic Senate chair André Knoesen included a restatement of his thoughts about the importance of adherence to the Principles of Community in light of recent activities on campus. He stressed a need for faculty to work on improving the campus climate, and that also includes improving diversity. Also of concern is the lack of adequate space for classes. Especially lacking are rooms that can hold over 500 students or in the 100 to 200 person capacity range. The anticipated growth in students from both the chancellor’s 2020 Vision, in addition to the increased enrollment mandated by the state is going to be a struggle. Faculty are encouraged to communicate with administration to let them know that immediate solutions as well as long term planning are needed for classroom space. Also discussed at Executive Council was the task force report on the new retirement options and the proposed new title of Professor of Teaching.

New Business
Dean’s Office representation at FEC meetings – There was discussion about dean’s office representation on the FEC. Members from both parties, dean’s office representatives, and the FEC membership agreed that working together on academic matters was a benefit to all at the FEC meetings. However, the need to have all associate deans, the executive associate dean and the dean present is unnecessary. It was suggested that dean Helene Dillard and associate dean Sue Ebeler, both serving on the FEC as ex officio members, can attend FEC meetings, along with one representative divisional associate dean. In the dean’s absence, executive associate dean Mary Delany will attend in her place. It was moved and seconded “to do as he said” referring to discussion from Alan Hastings that suggested that either Mary or Helene and Sue will attend future FEC meetings, along with one associate dean. The motion passed unanimously.
Implementation workgroups - John Eadie and Francene Steinberg, co-chairs from the 2015 CA&ES Academic and Strategic Planning (ASP) committee attended the FEC meeting, by invitation of the dean’s office. As a followup to the 2015 Academic and Strategic Plan report produced by the ASP committee, the dean’s office, the FEC and the ASP co-chairs agreed that they will work together to formulate implementation workgroups, as suggested in the ASP report. Not all workgroups suggested in the report will be formed now, some may be addressed in the future, and the exact format of the workgroups may change to best address current needs of the college.

The meeting was adjourned by Alan Hastings.

Brenda Nakamoto