

Greenhouse Committee Meeting minutes, March 17, 2015

Present: Alan Christensen, Lance Meinke, Anne Streich, Hector Santiago, Ed Cahoon, Keenan Amundsen, Matt Anderson, Stephen Wegulo, Scott Sattler, Amy Hilske. Absent: Aaron Lorenz

The minutes from the meeting on Feb 17, 2015 were approved (moved by Amundsen, second by Meinke).

Updates and Announcements:

Amy reported that the Lemnatech at NIC is currently installed and running tests. Training of Amy and Vincent will be in April, and UNL expects to take full possession on May 1.

Renovations of Greenhouses A and E is complete except for relining the sumps.

The NIC greenhouse is expected to be done by March 31. Amy and Vincent will move in on April 6.

East campus growth chamber removal is in process. The plan is to have the new growth chambers for Beadle and Plant Pathology ordered within a month.

Old Business:

Committee structure: Alan and Hector will meet with Dean Clutter to discuss the committee's recommendations for structure, terms, etc.

Learning Environment Subcommittee:

Anne and Keenan will propose that ARD support a visit by their working group to several new teaching greenhouses to collect more information about the facilities and how they work. Suggestions included the University of Minnesota, Iowa State University, North Dakota State University, University of Connecticut, Colorado State University, and Norris high school.

Additional Infrastructure Needs:

Growth Chambers (in progress)

Plant Pathology B1 – Concrete floors, new lights and doors

Plant Pathology A – LED lights

The Plant Path renovations will be approximately \$400-450K. This is not all available at the present but some funds remain unspent from the A & E renovations.

New Business:

New service centers:

Accounting recommends separate service centers for the NIC greenhouses and the phenotyping facility. ARD concurs. The committee also agreed this was logical.

New Service fee rates for 2015-2016:

Amy presented the new calculation of rates from accounting. The unit usages have varied quite a bit from what was anticipated last year. The committee was concerned about the proposal because we resolved on September 4, 2014 "It is the intent of the Greenhouse committee that rates within each tier will not increase more than 5% per year for the next three years." Amy will rework the numbers to stay within that limit and present the possibilities at the April meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Alan C. Christensen, chair