

Greenhouse Committee Meeting Minutes, September 22, 2015

The meeting started at 1 p.m.

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

Updates and Announcements

Amy Hilske reported that Jeff Witkowski has been hired as a new Greenhouse Manager. Three new students have also been hired to help Greenhouse Managers. Four new growth chambers have been delivered, two to the Plant Pathology greenhouse and two to the Beadle Center. Three new growth chambers are in the process of being ordered.

Old Business:

Learning Environment Subcommittee:

Anne Streich presented a construction proposal for a plant growth instructional laboratory and support facility. She showed pictures from previous visits to similar facilities at Iowa State University (ISU) and the University of Minnesota (UMN). Based on the facilities at ISU and UMN, it was concluded that UNL lags behind its peers and therefore there is a need for a modern plant growth instructional laboratory and support facility at UNL. Hector Santiago will present the proposal to IANR Deans and David Jackson, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, for consideration.

Athletic Department Request:

Amy Hilske reported there was no follow-up by the athletic department with their inquiry about having fruits and vegetables grown on campus for use at the athletic training table.

New Business:

Year End Report:

Amy Hilske presented expenses and revenues for the period July 1, 2014- June 30, 2015. Results were close to expected, with a small deficit.

Space Request Form Revision:

Amy said there is a need to revise the space request form to improve its usability. Among other features, the revised form would be searchable and more detail oriented.

Other Business Discussed:

Anne said some teaching faculty do not have information on how or where to request greenhouse space.

Matt tabled a proposal to develop a greenhouse manual to standardize autoclaving procedures.

Anne proposed that Greenhouse Committee meetings be held every other month.

Hector said that when faculty put together research grant proposals, they should share with Amy the budget for greenhouse space so she can provide input on a realistic budget. This will avoid under-budgeting for greenhouse space and services.

Stephen proposed that there should be a mechanism to make all faculty aware of the fact that they should budget for greenhouse space and services in grant proposals if all or part of the research will be conducted in the greenhouse.

The meeting adjourned at 1:58 p.m.