

ARD Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 14, 2018

3:30 PM – 4:30 PM

103J AGH

In Attendance: Dean Archie Clutter, Dr. Maria De Guzman, Dr. David Hyten, Dr. Oleh Khalimonchuk, Dr. James MacDonald, Dr. Rezaul Mahmood, Dr. Fernando Osorio, Dr. Kurt Piepenbrink, Dr. Daran Rudnick, Assistant Dean Hector Santiago

Approval of September 13, 2018 minutes

A motion was made by Fernando Osorio to approve the minutes and seconded by Oleh Khalimonchuk. The council members approved the minutes with no objections from the September 13, 2018 ARD Advisory Council Meeting.

Review and Approve Amended By-laws

Hector Santiago proposed to the group that the verbiage for District 8 Centers be updated to read as follows:

3. Membership and Organization

a. Composition

i. Faculty Members

3 (h) – West Central Research & Extension Center; Panhandle Research & Extension Center, Eastern Nebraska Research & Extension Center (Northeast, Southeast and Metro Research & Extension Centers)

David Hyten motioned to approve the changes as listed above and was seconded by James Schnable. The proposed changes were approved with no objections.

Selection of Council Initiative

The group agreed to move forward on focusing mainly on mid-career development. James MacDonald will lead a sub-committee for the initiative that will also include David Hyten and Oleh Khalimonchuk. David asked that the advisory council members send any ideas they may to him, James and Oleh and they will put together the list and start to draft a document. This item will be discussed at the next ARD Advisory Council Meeting.

Updates from the Deans

Archie Clutter discussed information on the following initiatives and strategic planning that he is working on:

1. NIAMRRE (National Institute of Antimicrobial Resistance Research and Education) – still at a very early stage. Received designation as a national institute in July 2018. Will be working closely with Iowa State on the project.

2. Ag Biosecurity and Biodefense – Colorado State University is leading this charge and includes University of Nebraska, Iowa State, Kansas State, and Texas A&M. There was an initial meeting held in September and a follow-up meeting held in October. A strong theme in this discussion is around surveillance – early diagnosis of disease (natural or intended/terroristic).
3. Collaboration Retreat at NIC – Big Ideas initiative (proposal submissions) and the communication of re-engaging the six communities that we have used for strategic planning which can be found here: <https://ianr.unl.edu/communities>

Additional topics and discussion

Kurt Piepenbrink brought up a concern relating to funding for fellowship awards and asked if there is a way to streamline the process for reviewing and funding the multiple awards that council members are asked to review, i.e., breadth of subject matter, fairness or rating, lower dollar amount, fund all, clearer guidelines, communication to reviewers on those that were funded. The group will discuss this further at the next meeting with Dr. Tala Awada.

Hector Santiago discussed that the dates for the external review of UNL Plant Growth and Phenotyping Facilities are still being finalized. The external review team members have been confirmed. He also discussed that there has been progress made regarding F&A discussions. A document has been created to help guide people through the process of deciding what type of project they have. Hector and Jared Evert plan to travel to the Research and Extension centers the week of December 17th to discuss the document and address any F&A questions.

Fernando Osorio expressed concerns about not having much unit level communication regarding promotion and tenure guidelines and guidance. Archie Clutter confirmed with the group that Dr. Richard Bischoff is leading the promotion and tenure efforts. The council members expressed interest in having and attending annual promotion and tenure meetings.

Archie Clutter provided an update on the graduate program initiative sub-committee that was formed based on last year's council initiative. Members include himself, Tala Awada, Hector Santiago, Stephen Baenziger, Tiffany Heng-Moss, David Hyten, and Terry Howell.

Archie Clutter also mentioned that the FFAR program is preparing for another round of applications and that information has been distributed.

Review and Feedback of ARD Advisory Council Newsletter

The group expressed positive feedback on the draft that David Hyten sent out to the group.

Next Meeting – will be scheduled for February or March of 2019.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Ashleigh Ravnika