<u>In Attendance:</u> *Archie Clutter, Oleh Khalimonchuk, Hector Santiago, Kurt Piepenbrink, Daran Rudnick, Tala Awada, Patricio Grassini, Fernando Osorio*

Daran Rudnick nominates Kurt Piepenbrink to be the Chair-Elect for 2020-2021. Oleh Khalimonchuk seconds. Unanimous vote for Kurt Piepenbrink to be the chair elect.

Approval of October 21, 2019 minutes – Approved.

Committee Assignments**: Tala will share committee assignments.**
- Suggestion to change "ranking" to "priority" in the spreadsheet sent to review committees
- It can be difficult to judge travel award applications with only an abstract and with too many disciplines that committee members aren't familiar with. One suggestion is to award anyone who applies and meets criteria with the funds split amongst the recipients, however this could dilute the quality of applications as it would potentially be seen as guaranteed funding.
- Consider revisiting criteria: only accept oral presentations (no posters), no first-year accepted
- **<u>Resolution</u>: we will look at the data to see how many posters are accepted historically**

Updates from the Deans
- Archie Clutter:
  - Graduate Student development: **ARD council to provide feedback on creating opportunities for professional development activities.**
  - Communications: there is a new IANR Director of Communications, Cara Pesek. If you have an interest, we can invite Cara to attend a future meeting. Additionally, **send us any stories that you want highlighted so we can work with her to get the word out.**
  - Big Data and Plant Phenomics: how can we create data architecture/data pipelines? We are working with the Holland Computing Center on solutions. **With experience this council has in big data, input is welcome.**
  - If you have an interest in Federal Relations at UNL, we can invite Matt Hammons to attend one of our future meetings.
- Tala Awada:
  - We will be using this council to help review and provide feedback on a document on promoting and strengthening Diversity and Inclusion in IANR. This is intended to compliment current university-wide initiatives.
  - IANR-Engineering Collaboration: ongoing meetings between faculty with focus on issues with common interest.
  - ARD will be creating an annual publication where each unit has the opportunity to highlight their impacts including metrics. The purpose is primarily for communications purposes. Units will be able to select the metrics they want to highlight and will be able to create a "tagline"
- Hector Santiago:
  - Academic Program Reviews: in 2019 we reviewed Center for Grassland Studies and Biological Systems Engineering. In 2020 we will have Food Science & Technology, Plant Science Innovation, and Statistics.
  - Call for hatch multistate projects went out in December. Proposal are due the 31st of January. Hector will be assembling teams to review the proposals according to expertise.
  - RFP's for commodity boards are out or coming out.
  - We are in the process of reviewing the progress reports for Capacity Funds.

Additional Items
- Newsletter:
  - o The purpose this served was to fulfill the report out requirement for council members

- o Kurt moves to send approved minutes to department heads with a constant format to give updates on priorities
  - Discussion evolved to compact the minutes into a more attractive update on priorities and send to unit heads to distribute. This will also serve as an opportunity to ask the units for feedback
  - **For this set of minutes, Kurt volunteers to write a short digest to be at the top of the shared minutes**
- Mid-Career Faculty Support:
  - o Is there interest in this council continuing to develop or research ideas or is it time to pass it along to other committees?
  - o Next step: get feedback on ideas from mid-career faculty (tenured, not full professor). Suggested to send a survey to figure out the common barriers that mid-career faculty are running into. **If you have a question you want on the survey, send it to Maria. We will review that in the next meeting.**
- Other potential council priorities
  - o Graduate interdisciplinary programs: there is a national push for this, how can we facilitate growth in this area at UNL. A good model is the Complex Biosystems Graduate Program. The first year, the program pays for the student, then the home department of the advisor pays. Lack of continuity among departments on admissions and stipends makes it difficult to organize.
    - Advantages: students are able to apply once to multiple programs and can "test" different departments

Next Meeting – February 13, 9-10am, AGH 311

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm
Minutes respectfully submitted by Kaitlyn Smejdir