

**DAFVM Senate Meeting  
Minutes  
1:30 pm. October 14, 2021**

**205 Bost**

<https://msstate.webex.com/msstate/j.php?MTID=mdd21d6f8d1c32d376f5c067ead92e749>

DAFVM Faculty Senate Attendees: Pratima Acharya Adhikari, Alisha Hardman, Michael Jaffe, Alison Lee, Caleb Lemley, Courtney Siegert, Jason Camp, Rocky Lemus, Darrell Sparks, Amanda Stone, Robert Grala

Excused: Tricia Knight, Casey, Barickman, JuYoung Lee,

Absent:

**Call to Order at 1:32**

**Roll Call**-Record via sign-in sheet and Webex

**Reading and approval of minutes from September 9, 2021**

-No changes

-Motion to approve: Dr. Jason Camp; 2<sup>nd</sup>- Dr. Rocky Lemus

**Standing Committee Reports:**

**Office of the Vice President: Dr. Ashley Brown on behalf of Dr. Keith Coble**

- COVID taskforce will send survey out to gauge vaccination rates again soon
- Infrastructure improvement bill – federal funds allocated; DAFVM could receive \$7.2 million from these federal funds (specifically water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure)
- Deans and director searches are still ongoing
- Ongoing discussions for telework but not much to report on it
- Additional branding meetings but final recommendation for new branding has not been made yet

**Interim Dean, CALS: Dr. Scott Willard**

- CALS alumni breakfast is not happening during homecoming this year but look forward to breakfast at Super Bulldog Weekend this spring
- MANRS week will be next week on the drill field to highlight that they've been a student chapter for 20 years

- Global youth institute (World Food Prize) starts Friday of this week virtually
- Development interviews coming up for CALS/MAFES/Extension; 2 candidates identified by the Foundation
- Associate Deans and staff on a newly created committee to plan for clinical/extension instructors being promoted etc. Send feedback to Dr. Willard if you have any (he is representing both CALS and CFR).
- Pre-registration advising is coming up; schedules for spring 2022 are currently being proofed
- October 1 started P & T process for the year; testing an online system with one department to potentially deploy it to everyone next year

### **Interim Dean, CFR & FWRC: Dr. Wes Burger**

- Not in attendance

### **Extension Service: Dr. Gary Jackson**

- Submitted state appropriations request on August 1 for a 9.9% increase in FY23 budget; half will be designated to pay raises to faculty/staff and the other half would go to operations to support faculty and staff including some new positions
- Requesting \$3 million in technology (hardware and software in off-campus units) infrastructure from ARPA funds (\$1.8 billion coming to the state); MSU via Extension can pick up literacy and education pieces of using the broadband that is already in the works under those funds; some of the funds will be for faculty to convert in-person curriculum to online curriculum
- No money for new positions since FY16 but have re-allocated priorities and are currently hiring 8 faculty with Extension appointments (in collaboration with MAFES, CALS, CFR)
- Desperately need Extension agents; model calls for at least 2 agents per counties; have extended offers to 8 new agents
- Annual conference will be abbreviated – Dr. Edmond Jones (Director of Extension at Virginia Tech) will be speaking virtually at 11:30 Wednesday October 27; awards ceremony will occur on the 27<sup>th</sup> during a luncheon
- Thankful to faculty working on taskforces
- Dr. Rocky Lemus asked how broadband etc. will impact Extension; Dr. Jackson expressed that we never can replace face-to-face instruction and we will continue to value that the most but that there are several things we can convert (things for certifications, etc.) but can't ever replace the 'faculty braintrust' and relationships; Dr. Lemus suggested we try to get some infrastructure money to create more meeting spaces within county offices to serve the stakeholders best

### **Holland Faculty Senate: Dr. Amanda Stone**

- Holland Faculty Senate meets tomorrow
- Last month's meeting included two resolutions on COVID vaccine mandates and included a lot of discussion on this topic
- Tomorrow's meeting includes updates on formal teaching evaluations

### **DAFVM Executive Council: Dr. Robert Grala**

### **Extension Advisory Council: Dr. Robert Grala**

- Dr. Jackson and Dr. Brown already noted updates in their DAFVM Senate updates
- Discussion on F&A (equipment, travel, upkeep, etc.)
- COVID report: hospitals in MS are managing situation; state has pop-up vaccination clinics; open forum today and opportunities to receive vaccine

### **Faculty Housing Appeals Committee: Dr. Robert Grala**

- Two requests since last meeting and both were approved

### **Report of the Chair and Vice Chair**

- Need to fill a Parliamentary position
- Will post committees and descriptions of committees online and contact Senators to fill those positions
- Motion was made last meeting to move discussion of Extension P&T document to today's meeting; Dr. Grala received some feedback and sent it onto Dr. Jackson anonymously

### **Unfinished Business**

- P&T guidelines for Extension faculty was tabled for discussion until today; Dr. Grala received some feedback and sent it onto Dr. Jackson anonymously
- Have just been alerted today that we were not sent the most updated version but will have discussion now while Dr. Jackson can answer questions
- Dr. Grala opened the floor for discussions related to this document
- Dr. Jackson expressed that the committee's assignment was to develop a set of guidelines in synch with university/IHL/etc. and make it into an Extension publication to express what our base is philosophically
- Updates from the version we were sent to the newest version available: Latest version has overview of Extension; Scholarship of Teaching and Learning section includes examples of non-formal instruction and examples of problem solving; defines larger objectives in terms of dissemination, technology, and problem-solving and provides examples; Expresses that we need to support the industry and not just the producers (e.g. who makes the seeds and not just who plants them); Indices are included; Suggested

career evaluations includes credits (adapted from PSU, OSU, UGA, and MSU handbooks); Standardized example of client/peer evaluation form (Dr. Jackson expressed that we may not want that in the document because the university is headed toward including non-formal teaching instrument)

-Dr. Alisha Hardman (on the committee for this document) expressed that the committee would be fine with leaving the evaluation examples off the packet if desired; Added that the newer version has Engaged Scholarship example from Dr. Denny written up as an example of the Apprenticeship program to show how to show those types of things in P & T documents

-Dr. Jackson understands if we want to table to discussion to the November meeting and he will come back to discuss again once we have had time to review the entire document

-Dr. Lemus asked to have information on how to document social media outreach included in the document (can we develop an index based on views, posts, etc.)

-Dr. Jackson explained that planned programs are the same as a lesson plan/course syllabi – outcomes and impacts (was there an economic/physical/social/environmental impact?) and it is difficult to evaluate those via social media; Dr. Hardman expressed that those posts can connect people to more direct contacts that would eventually lead to other program evaluations etc.; Dr. Hardman expressed that connecting the outcomes to the objectives is important (e.g. if the objective was to raise awareness then having a lot of Facebook views would do that)

-Dr. Sandra Correa expressed that expectations overlap teaching and research components but now are stacking specific expectations on top of that; Dr. Lemus explained that Extension positions are now tenure-track so they'd still follow those expectations; Dr. Willard expressed that in the faculty handbook Extension is already evaluated and would need to go to the Holland Faculty Senate to change that and that it's important to do this but that we're threading a needle when the faculty handbook is the law of the land

-Dr. Jackson explained that Extension is teaching but that they're not exactly the same as an accredited course but that they have a lot at stake: Dr. Lemus expressed that his recommendations of herbicide could kill a crop that can't recover but you can change the grade of a student if there was a mistake so it sometimes has even more weight than formal teaching

-Dr. Darrell Sparks expressed that someone gave him feedback that the evaluation measures (e.g. satisfactory, excellence, etc.) are not defined within the document and asked that that be included; Dr. Jackson and Dr. Hardman expressed that these are good points

-Dr. Grala asked how to make sure that faculty who don't have an Extension appointment follow the guidelines listed in the document; Dr. Jackson explained that we're used to comprehensive evaluations and our committees understand the scholarship of outreach but that this document would be shared with everyone; thinks we need to create a document that will help committees but that it is guidelines and not exactly how many

publications you have to have to get to Associate Professor; Dr. Courtney Siegert expressed that departments can revise their P&T documents to lead committee members to the Extension document; Dr. Willard said we can make these types of documents appendices within departmental P&T documents and that the faculty have the power to change those documents and processes so if faculty feel they aren't being represented they need to bring it up to their department heads and other faculty

-Vote now noting that there are going to be some minor changes or postpone it until November meeting; Dr. Grala explained that we are voting to support the document as a publication but not voting on the specific wording/changes/etc.

-Dr. Rebecca Melanson expressed that she supports this document because her department doesn't have a lot of Extension faculty and she just went through the P&T process; Dr. Maples explained that the document would have been really helpful when he started because it outlines expectations well.

-Motion put forth by Dr. Rocky Lemus that we support the Extension guidelines document to help future faculty and P&T committees can better evaluate faculty with Extension appointments

2<sup>nd</sup>: Dr. Darrell Sparks

Vote: all present voted "yes"; no "no"s

-Dr. Jackson expressed his thanks for the Senate's support and stated that he will bring and updated document to us once we get it to that point

## **New Business**

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## **Floor is Open - Senator Updates**

## **Important Dates**

DAFVM Faculty Senate meetings scheduled for the 2021-22 academic year (the second Thursday of every month; 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm):

November 11, 2021

December 9, 2021

January 13, 2022

February 10, 2022

March 10, 2022

April 14, 2022

May 12, 2022

## **Adjourn at 3:07**

Motion: Dr. Courtney Siegert; 2<sup>nd</sup> – Dr. Darrell Sparks