

# CAFNR Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

## Attending

Christopher Daubert, Vice Chancellor and Dean

Laura McCann, Committee Chair

Andrew Clark

Zhanyuan Zhang

Toshi Ezashi

Tom McFadden

Doug Noltie (delegate for David Larsen)

Dae-Young Kim

Jon Simonsen

Sharon Wood-Turley

Teresa Davis, Staff Support

## Discussion

Laura McCann welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Dr. Kim moved approval of the minutes; Dr. Clarke seconded. Minutes were approved.

A proposed change to CAFNR bylaws was provided via email to voting faculty on October 20. Dr. McCann will send again just before the November 17 faculty meeting.

Discussion ensued around the voting process. Clarification was requested about how the vote is conducted and reported.

### **Dean's remarks:**

The Chancellor attended a recent AAU meeting. We will be challenged and charged to improve our metrics for AAU status. How do we position our college? Four of the six top divisions in research expenditures across campus come from our college.

We are administratively thin. Need leaders to drive policy (i.e., APLU committees). We are not at the table for key policy discussions. How do we become more engaged? Will be making some changes in the organizational chart to address this need.

An open search for the next Associate Dean for Research and Director of Ag Experiment Stations is underway.

These are challenging fiscal times for our college.

Our RFP for the college strategic planning process has been approved and advertised. We will be planning and preparing for a January 2018 launch and look forward to your participation. We want to reconnect with partners and stakeholders and proactively determine who we are and where we want to go thru this process. Choice vs. chance. We must determine our values and what we aspire to be. Answer the question “What is our Why” (i.e., “Answering your Why” TED Talk).

Changes in higher education – what makes us a destination?

A guiding coalition will help the process unfold and communicate to stakeholders. We will discuss this further at the Novemberfest/Faculty & Staff meeting. That meeting will be live-streamed so that all CAFNR faculty and staff can participate.

The committee applauded the dean’s open approach and stated that the strategic planning process needs to be one of integrity. Lots of time will be invested. It was suggested that strategic investments should be made in our strongest AAU metric areas – with transparency about who and why we invest in those areas. Some feel undervalued, but all must understand that we are one college and all contribute.

Tom McFadden asked what the policy committee could do to assist? (The dean will think about that, and thanked the committee for their willingness to help.) Perhaps the committee could help in discerning how we involve the community in the planning process and implementation?

Need to look at hiring to help programs be ready to take off. Also, help existing faculty become better rather than hiring stars to meet AAU metrics.

Need a grant writer at the college level.

Update on Provost Stokes’ departure: the Chancellor is putting together a committee to find an interim. There will be an open search for the permanent position.

Future discussion items:

- Academic Program Task Force
- NTT faculty – 1 year terms (easy to terminate); competitors offering 3-5 year contracts
- Lack of security (not well organized on campus or in the college).
- Understand historically what this committee did (become more like Faculty Council for CAFNR)

Motion to adjourn by Doug Noltie; Seconded by Tom McFadden. Approved.

Adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa Davis  
Senior Executive Assistant to the Dean  
College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources