Administrative Council
for
Extension and Experiment Station Research Meeting

Friday, August 6, 2021
1:30-3:00 p.m.
130 Burruss Hall Conference Room

AGENDA

Participants: Susan Duncan, Keith Goyne, Jeff Earley, Paul Winistorfer, Ed Jones, Tim Hodge, Cyril Clarke, Alan Grant, Saied Mostaghimi, Steve Kleiber, Elizabeth Hooper (Zoom), Don Taylor, Chris Yianilos (Zoom), Dan Sui

1. **Welcome and Introductions (Cyril Clarke)**

2. **Discussion Items**
   a.) Approval of Meeting Minutes (Mallory Miller)
   > Minutes from the June 2021 meeting were provided electronically with the current agenda. The minutes were approved.

   b.) Update on Agency 229 Capital Requests to the State (Jeff Earley, Chris Yianilos)
   > The group reviewed the Agency 229 capital project list as approved by the Board of Visitors, and the process for submitting requests to the state. The university anticipates receiving instructions for submitting Agency 229 capital request from the state in the upcoming month.

   > The group will discuss the Agency 229 capital project planning and submission in more detail at a future meeting.

   c.) Potential for Increasing the VCE Budget (Open Discussion)
   > The group discussed developing future plans for the agency while continuing to stay committed to current initiatives. In an upcoming meeting, the council will review ongoing work and investigate ways to further develop current initiatives and new initiatives to continue to adapt to the needs of the Commonwealth.

   > The group discussed engagement in the budget planning process to ensure the agency is evolving with the needs of the Commonwealth.

3. **Updates**
   a.) Virginia Cooperative Extension (Ed Jones)
   > VCE Fall district conversations are ongoing virtually.

   > The 4H summer camp season was successful. Virginia Tech will have two inducted into the 4H Hall of Fame, Bob Meadows (induction was

postponed from last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic) and John Dooley.

VCE in the Chesapeake Bay area conducted a water quality survey on behalf of the state. The partnership will continue as the state asked for VCE to follow-up in two years.

b.) **Agricultural Experiment Station (Saied Mostaghimi)**
The ARECs are in the process of filling six vacancies, and will be looking to replace the Winchester AREC director, Tony Wolf, after his retirement in January.

The former Virginia Governor, Terry McAuliffe, is scheduled to visit the Tidewater AREC this month.

c.) **Deans**
- **CNRE (Paul Winistorfer)**
The dean of the College of Natural Resources and Environment mentioned a growing need, interest, and opportunity in addressing climate change through a better understanding of carbon. He shared a link to a recent study by the Forest Resources Association showing a summary of carbon in Virginia through the lens of the state's forests.

The group discussed that carbon and climate change could be an area of focus for the council to investigate.

- **CALS (Alan Grant)**
The dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Science reported that there is great progress being made in IT infrastructure upgrades across the AREC system.

Susan Duncan and team participated in the Ag Expo, which is an annual event that rotates to different farms across the state.

The college had an opportunities to meet with Elizabeth McClanahan, Virginia Tech Foundation CEO, to discuss the important role of the Virginia Tech Foundation in acquiring land to support the college and Agency 229.

d.) **OVPRI (Dan Sui)**
The VP for Research and Innovation provided an overall update on the Office of Research and Innovation activities including; the development of the National Security Institute in Northern Virginia, changes within the university's research centers, and development in the areas of One Health and Quantum Computing.

4. Other Business

The group discussed in some detail the U.S Innovation and Competition Act, which includes programs for precision agriculture as an area of priority. Chris Yianilos noted that the amount of funding for precision agriculture programs is not well defined in the legislation.