

School of Natural Resources and Environment
Executive Committee – Strategic Planning Minutes

Friday September 6, 2019

ENR2 N450

Attendees: J. Koprowski, S. Marsh, R. Gallery, D. Moore, D. Breshears, G. Garfin, B. Steidl, L. Howery, K. Hughes, B. Krosgaard, A. Stewart, L. Fera

1. Approval of previous meeting minutes – approved
2. Director's Report and Discussion
 - a. Questions on last week's initiatives
 - b. Dean's visit on Nov. 5th – please attend
 - c. Position updates
 - i. Rangeland Conservation position. Had two meetings and have drafted a position description. Aiming for interviews in October.
 - d. No updates on the Environment and the Strategic Plan
 - e. General education uncertainty – no solutions. K. Prudic is actively involved in the discussions and is keeping J. Koprowski involved.
 - f. Assessment – led by J. Soto, working on getting from 48 questions to 24.
 - g. University budget – RCM, UCAP and Merit. Still no solid details. President is taking a strategic plan tax out of RCM and space tax has increased. CALS is in the red because of those changes. Possible UCAP deficit, to be covered by the college or the units or some combination of the two. Hopefully the President's office will cover the merit increases. RCM is not going away, may be tweaked to include retention metrics.
3. New business
 - a. What is on your radar as emerging issues?
 - i. SCH has increased but grad student enrollment has decreased – D. Breshears. D. Moore is sharing grad students and co-advising them. Concern about faculty needing to hire TAs outside of SNRE. More waiver money this year but unable to give it all away because it came so late.
 - b. Development plan – helping graduate/undergraduate students, helping faculty with pots of money to piece together a graduate student on board. Possible Study Abroad experiences, had one scholarship this year (this is on top of normal scholarship opportunities), looking at alumni to donate airline miles. Training programs – with large donation received, to give opportunity to grad students for 10-week long trainings to teach in international environments. Program completion support. Idea of smaller endowments for rotating endowments for junior faculty.
 - c. Getting positions – how do we finally get a SPFI to work? SPFI program is still there, can submit proposals on a monthly basis, want to try to take advantage of the opportunity, it is a guaranteed position
 - d. Conservation campus – water treatment wetlands. Conference center for 120 people, break out rooms, housing for 16-32 graduate/undergraduate students is current plan.