School of Natural Resources and the Environment
Executive Committee – Strategic Planning Committee Agenda
Thursday March 19, 2020, 12:30 – 2 pm
ZOOM Mtg ID 418 374 702

Attendees: J. Koprowski, K. Hughes, S. Archer, L. Howery, S. Bonar, B. Krogsgaard, S. Washko, W. van Leeuwen, D. Moore, D. Breshears, M. Bogan, G. Garfin, A. Stewart

1) Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting

2) Director’s Report and Discussion –15 minutes
   • Next meeting – 26 March
   • 6 November – Conservation Speaker Series – Joel Sartore
   • Positions – SPFI and EMRR- hiring still moving forward at this time.
     o Archer: update on EMRR hire, search committee has 6 candidates and setting up zoom interviews. Will narrow down to 2-3 candidates.
     o S. Bonar: update on COOP position- still moving forward.
     o SPFI position: we have not heard an update yet. John reached out for an update.
   • On-line BS in Natural Resources – will need to self-finance
     o Burning Glass assessment shows some ambiguity about the return on investment. UAonline will still provide some financial support to move the program online but SNRE will also have to cover some of these costs.
     o Climate change minor: K. Hughes, collecting information and is completing course list. Need to create the curriculum map.
   • Full slate of summer courses
     o Most universities anticipating a decline in residential enrollments for Fall 2020. More students may be taking online courses during the summer.

3) New Business – 45 min
   • COVID-19
     o Significant financial consequences for the UA resulting from the COVID-19 health crisis.
     o Still moving forward with AIRES initiative. Committee is meeting 3/20 with VPR.
     o Severity of the pandemic is unknown
Teaching- alternative grading approaches discussed. There may be opportunities for students and faculty to discuss proposals for changes at UA.

Talk to undergrad and grad students. Reach out and keep students engaged.
- Students could do a meta analysis of data and other options.
- Productivity concerns and realistic expectations are important.

Research- individuals should not be performing lab or fieldwork unless these were approved as essential. Individuals must always be 6 feet apart and can only stay overnight if camping; 1 person per vehicle.
- 2pm meeting 3/20 with Parker Antin to update on research operations. Mitigation plans will be discussed.
- Most research is viewed as critical, however it should still be ramped down. Possibility of a complete cessation of research activities that cannot be performed remotely.
- Still waiting for guidance on getting deliveries at central receiving if they cannot be routed to homes.

Morale

Students in need
- Anticipating a small fund to be availability to help with food or emergencies.

Emerging issues?

4) Program Chair and Division Reports – as requested
- Wildlife and Fisheries Conservation
- Watershed Management and Ecohydrology
- Ecology, Management, and Restoration of Rangelands
- Natural Resource Studies
- Arid Lands
- Water, Society and Policy
- NRGSO

5) Standing Committee Reports and Ad hoc Committee Reports –as requested