College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
Executive Committee
Friday, June 1, 2012, 1:10 pm – 3:00 pm
Minutes

Present – Chris Calvert, Mary Delany, Jan Hopmans, Irtqa Illyas, Karen Klonsky, Mark Lubell, Jim MacDonald, Ken Tate, Neal Van Alfen, Jeffrey Williams and John Yoder

Absent – Trish Berger, Jessica Dam, Susan Handy, James Hildreth, Martina Newell-McGloughlin, Dan Putnam, Kevin Rice, Judith Stern, Ken Tate and Diane Ullman

Guest – Tom Kaiser

Chair Chris Calvert opened the meeting of the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Executive Committee (EC). Due to the large amount of agenda items scheduled for this meeting, an additional one to two meetings will be scheduled during the summer. The undergraduate program review of the Environmental Science and Management major will need to be addressed, among other unfinished committee matters. (action item – Brenda schedule meetings)

Old Business
Chris announced that the proposed name change for the consolidation of the departments of Human and Community Development with Environmental Design was approved at the Academic Senate, and the merger of these two departments along with a new name will be submitted through the administrative procedures.

Dean’s Report
Neal Van Alfen made a special preview presentation to the Executive Committee of what college budget information will be presented at an upcoming meeting with the provost. This annual budget meeting with the provost is new, with college presentations required in a preset format. The dean asked for advice and consultation and circulated a two and a half page document of talking points that he planned to cover at the meeting. Assistant dean Tom Kaiser presented background budgetary information for Neal’s presentation. Some talking points for the budget meeting were discussed:

- The college has continued to maintain excellence while adjusting to severe budget reductions. Based on the recommendations of ad hoc committees, the college is merging smaller departments and recommending closure of one major. With approval from the provost, the college has been/will be hiring 12 faculty a year for 4 years, in anticipation of the loss from upcoming retirements. Dean’s office reserves are temporarily being used to address the deficit this year, as hiring is currently happening faster than faculty retirements. However, it is anticipated that this will be resolved in three years, when more faculty will be retiring than are being hired.

- With collaboration from the Executive Committee, the undergraduate curriculum in the college will be reviewed to ensure it is appropriate and up-to-date. Opportunities for expanding into a global curriculum, such as the proposed exchange of students with Wageningen University and UC Davis, will be examined.

- The college will continue using its activity- and formula-based budget model for departmental budget allocations.
• One goal is to have all CA&ES programs ranked among the top three in the nation.
• The use of the college academic planning process along with managing resources towards meeting an end goal is the strategy the college plans to use in budget allocation. In 2002-2005, the college received a 12 million dollar base budget reduction. In 2008-2012, there was an additional 11.5 million dollar permanent reduction. Maintaining adequate support for faculty and providing facilities and opportunity funds will be considered foremost.
• One-time reserves are an area of college vulnerability. The college has a total of 70 million dollars in one-time reserves, the majority of which resides as carry-forward funds in departments. Although these funds come with different stories, the dean plans to explain to the provost that these reserves are an indicator of health--that in the last decade of drastic budget cuts, the college as a whole has grown. At the same time, department chairs and CAOs will be made aware of their carry-forward funds in reports they receive from the dean’s office and will be encouraged to use them.
• Other priorities – The dean will propose to the provost that the college spend 10 million dollars of its reserves and commit to raising an additional 15-20 million dollars in order to build a building to cluster the environmental sciences, specifically ESP, LAWR and WFCB. The positive result of the building of the Robert Mondavi Institute and the surrounding facilities is one of the reasons for this proposal, and the dean hopes to raise the facilities of the environmental sciences up to its already high, quality of programs. He estimated the total cost of the new building at 75 million dollars. The college would return the older, currently-used environmental sciences buildings back to campus, where they can be reconverted and used for other purposes.
• Tom Kaiser gave a talk about the development of a new campus budget model. This presentation was also given at the monthly chairs’ meeting that morning. Topics of discussion included increased student enrollment, the 20/20 Vision, indirect cost recovery allocation, among others. White papers about the incentive based budget model can be found on the campus website.
  http://budget.ucdavis.edu/budget-model/
Tom also showed a table of college faculty new hires and retirements.

Action Item
• Schedule an Executive Committee meeting in the summer (Brenda)

Brenda Nakamoto