

**University of Delaware**  
**College of Agriculture and Natural Resources**  
**2013 Spring Faculty Meeting**  
**May 15, 2013**  
**9:30 – 11:00 a.m.**  
**132 Townsend Hall**

**Participants**

Adrienne Shearer	Dan Sarkissian	Laurie Wolinski
Amy Shober	Dave Frey	Lee Trumbull
Arby Henry	Deb Delaney	Lesa Griffiths
Behnam Abasht	Eric Wommack	Lidia Rejto
Bill Bartz	Erin Brannick	Linda You
Blake Meyers	Frederick Getze	Mark Parcels
Blake Meyers	Greg Shriver	Mark Rieger
Bob Alphin	Haiqiang Chen	Marlene Emara
Bob Lyons	Hong Li	Michelle Rodgers
Bob Uniatowski	Jack Gelb	Pam Green
Calvin Keeler	Jake Bowman	Randy Wisser
Carissa Wickens	Jay Townsend	Rolf Joerger
Carl Schmidt	Jeff Buler	Scott Hopkins
Carmine Balascio	Jenny McDermott	Sherry Kitto
Cathy Kinney	John Frett	Shreeram Inamdar
Changqing Wu	John Pesek	Stacey Chirnside
Chris Ulrich	Josh Duke	Steve Hastings
Christy Mannering	Judy Hough-Goldstein	Sue Barton
Chuck Mason	Jules Bruck	Susan Olson
Cindy O'Donnell	Kali Kniel	Tanya Gressley
Cindy O'Donnell	Katy O'Connell	Titus Awokuse
Corey Wright	Kent Messer	Tom Ilvento
Dallas Hoover	Laura Nemec	Yohannes Tesfaye

**Call to Order** – Mark Rieger, Dean

Dean Rieger called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

**Approval of the Agenda** – Mark Rieger, Dean

The agenda was approved as written.

**Approval of the Minutes** – December 7, 2012 – Mark Rieger, Dean

The minutes of the December 7, 2012 meeting were approved as written.

**Introductions and Announcements** – Mark Rieger, Dean

- Chris Ulrich and Corey Wright, Compensation & Benefits
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Corey presented information relative to changes in the tax law that impacts the University 403(b) plan. The 2013 rule limits employee contributions to \$17,500. He discussed how regular investing helps to reach a goal and that counseling was available to those who would like guidance with goal planning. A question arose about where to go to find out information on current investments and how to change your contribution. Corey stated that through HR Personal Access, click on the Retirement Program Savings View to access that information. Additional resources are also available at <http://www.udel.edu/hr/providers.html> or contact Corey directly at [crwright@udel.edu](mailto:crwright@udel.edu), 831-4310.

### **College Update – Mark Rieger, Dean**

- Faculty Promotions
  - Jake Bowman of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology to Professor
  - Shreeram Inamdar of Plant and Soil Sciences to Professor
  - Carl Schmidt of Animal and Food Sciences to Professor
  - Tanya Gressley of Animal and Food Sciences to Associate Professor
- New Hires
  - Nathan Kleczewski, Extension Plant Pathologist
- Strategic Planning – Strategic planning is underway University wide and in the College. The 2013 timeline of activities at UD include:
  - Feb-Aug – UD Space Audit
  - July – CANR Master Plan
  - August – The arrival of a new Provost, Domenico Grasso;  
<http://www.udel.edu/udaily/2013/jan/provost013013.html>.
  - August – UD Master Planning – this has not started yet. There are many factors involved, but the planning will not include the STAR campus and may not include satellite offices.

The CANR master plan action items for FY14 (beginning July 1, 2013) with measurable objectives will be determined at this point. We will deal with the – “what and why,” and less with the “when and how.”

Late 2013 – The Path to Prominence v. 2.0 will drive the UD Master Plan.

- Budget – FY13 closeout and FY14 Outlook

Dean Rieger stated that the budget outlook is better today than it was announced at the December faculty meeting. We are making progress with the structural deficit. However, the FY13 federal budget cuts are about \$250K taken from the Hatch, Smith-Lever, and McIntire-Stennis funds.

- Hiring/searches for FY14 looks promising for several positions.
- The Urban Forestry Professorship in PLSC is sponsored by an anonymous donor.
- A search for a Longwood Graduate Program Director will begin sometime in FY14.

- The dean announced that Katy O’Connell has accepted another position in the College of Earth, Ocean and Environment and will be leaving CANR mid-June. A search to fill that position will be underway soon.
- Ag Library Relocation
  - The dean announced that the CANR library collection will be transferred to the Morris Library. Pending an EPSCOR grant commitment, the current Ag library space will be renovated to create an improved experimental economics laboratory. On about July 1, the move should begin. All material will be accessible through the Morris Library.
  - The IT Master Plan will include print needs for students. A question arose asking who was working on the IT Master Plan and a suggestion was presented that faculty and staff be involved in the decision process. The dean stated that faculty should express their needs within their department’s master plan. A comment was made that IT should be more involved with the research process and needs. Dean Rieger stated that he would ask Janine Sherrier to look into this. Another comment was made that IT staff should inform the faculty what is available to them. Katy O’Connell, communications manager, suggested to “think big,” in other words, if you have an idea, chances are there is an IT solution for it. She added that if the CANR IT staff could not provide the service directly, then Central IT should be able to do so. Dean Rieger mentioned that he met with Central IT personnel and was impressed with the technology that is available to us. Central IT will have more information. Katy O’Connell said that she would send out information about Faculty Institute workshops.
- Grad Tuition Policy
  - Dean Rieger stated that CANR needs a policy (by department) on tuition waivers and stipends, and that UD must have a uniform policy on graduate tuition within grants and all colleges must agree with the federal compliance issue. He will work with the department chairs to accomplish this.
  - CANR waives about \$3.2 M in graduate tuition each year. The dean stated that we must have a discussion about what to do about this opportunity so it is not lost.
  - Tom Ilvento expressed concern as to why this happens. Discussion ensued on this subject and a question arose regarding salary compression between grad students and post-docs. Mark Parcels asked about the percentage of the money requested and said it would be difficult to get a uniform policy among college’s together. He continued to say that we are probably not going to be competitive if we do not write tuition waivers into grants and that we need to waive tuition to get the best students.
  - Lee Trumbull understands that we should be consistently charging tuition waivers within the same grant, but this could vary from grant to grant.
  - Dean Rieger said that it is important to stay true to what is originally proposed. He also stated that we should have a commitment to hire graduate students over post docs because we are first an educational institution. A balance has to be maintained.
  - A comment was made that we should keep the option open regarding the use of tuition funds within a grant.

- Dean Rieger stated clarity is needed on this issue and further discussions need to take place.
- Cost recovery
  - A committee is being formed for the purpose of creating strategies for cost recovery within a number of different areas in the college.
- Promotion and tenure guidelines
  - This section was not covered due to time constraints and the dean mentioned that this information would be included in a future newsletter.
- Farm and greenhouse upgrades
  - The dean stated that renovations must take place on current spaces for future needs of the greenhouses and the farm. He announced that we will be acquiring an ice cream truck for the UDairy Creamery. This is a joint venture with Lerner College.
- Computer refresh program
  - Dean Rieger asked what we should be doing as a college with regard to services that we provide relative to the computer refresh program. He said that we need to make these decisions this summer. Carl Schmidt expressed concerned about being forced into choosing between a PC or a MAC. Michelle Rodgers stated that lease arrangements seem to be the best route to take. Sue Barton commented that she uses a pallet in teaching her courses and this works well for her and expressed that each person has specific needs. Mark stated that unit leaders will be responsible on making the decision on whether to buy or lease and faculty need to address their concerns with the department heads. Dean Rieger asked if the faculty would attend presentations from vendors if we invited them to campus. Yohannes Tesfaye mentioned that certain software is only available on particular hardware. Steve Hastings suggested that we focus on the software importance rather than hardware and understanding the needs of the students.
- Seed grant program reinstatement
  - Dean Rieger asked for new ideas to reinstate the seed grant program and would like to see some proposals based on funding priorities. A question arose about who chooses the award? Dean Rieger replied he and the Associate Dean would make that decision.
- Sponsored program update
  - Dean Rieger thanked the CANR faculty for doing a great job and stated that we are right on track with where we should be with sponsored programs. He provided a slide depicting primary program expenditures with for fiscal year 2013 projections.

### **Development Update – Dan Sarkissian, Director of Development**

Rieger stated that we had a great year with development. The overall FY13 to date is \$6.62M toward a goal of \$4.85M. Cultivation has occurred many years past and the dean was appreciative with efforts. He presented the major gifts and annual giving amounts the college has recently received in urban forestry, ANFS scholarship endowments, equine minor endowment, and an anonymous gift to the creamery. We have reached 90% of our goal so far in annual and he thanked all in attendance who contributes to the college.

Dan Sarkissian said that on July 1, the goal will begin anew. He said that visible signs of the UD capital campaign will begin in the fall. Everything we raise as a college will go toward the UD campaign goal. He wants to keep an open-door policy and encouraged the faculty to visit with him and thanked them for their support. He added that it has been a good year.

- Fall 2013 Admissions
  - The dean presented a chart demonstrating how the college compares with other colleges at UD on Fall 2013 admission figures.
  - The dean explained how admission funds are distributed to the colleges.
  - One point of concern has been the decline in SAT scores.
  - The college has a 13% increase in deposits since this time last year.
  - There are 18 honor students in the freshman class.
  - The top three majors in the college that students are interested in are Pre-vet, Food Science, and Wildlife Conservation.

#### **Old Business – Mark Rieger, Dean**

There was no old business brought forth at this time.

#### **New Business – Mark Rieger, Dean**

- Lee Trumbull, transition from CRIS to Reeport

Reeport is the name of the new CRIS reporting system for and everyone will be notified by email to go into the system to activate their account.

- Courses and Curriculum Committee

Steve Hastings had one announcement regarding online learning. He stated that a new policy has been proposed regarding whether or not freshman or sophomores should be permitted to take online courses without the permission of faculty. Currently the students need permission from faculty. Most faculty believe this should not change. The Undergraduate Studies Committee will be addressing this issue in the Fall and Steve asked that any comments or concerns being addressed to him.

#### **Other Items**

A recording of today's faculty meeting is available at: <http://udel.adobeconnect.com/p73ywhrvsoj/>.

#### **Adjournment**

11:10

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Kinney

#### **\*Addendum (Katy O'Connell)**

I mentioned at the spring faculty meeting that I would share information about a few items. Please see below.

1) Summer Faculty Institute: May 28-31 (attend any number of days)

The Summer Faculty Institute (geared to faculty, but also open to professionals) provides information on the latest research and technological advances in classroom and online instruction. This is really the premier event at UD to learn what is possible both at UD and beyond in terms of online education. It is hosted by UD-IT's Academic Technology Services.

Faculty Institute Information: <http://ats.udel.edu/summer/>

2013 Full Program and Registration: <https://sites.google.com/a/udel.edu/sfi2013/>

2) Academic Technology Services (ATS)

ATS is UD's IT unit devoted to help faculty and those who teach at UD to "improve teaching and learning through the effective application of technology." While CANR IT provides some services here in the college, ATS is the broader unit at UD focused on video conferencing, clickers, UD capture, and much more. Not sure what you want to do but know that you want to embrace technology? They will do a consultation.

<http://ats.udel.edu/>

3) MiraPoint

We still have some CANR users using MiraPoint for email. All email accounts must be moved off of MiraPoint ([mail.udel.edu](mailto:mail.udel.edu)) no later than June 17, 2013. Greg Keane will be in touch with those users (we have a list) to discuss migration options.

4) Faculty Meeting Items

Also, please know that from feedback from the faculty meeting, CANR IT is working on a print solution for students displaced by the Ag Library move, and we will be in touch regarding a comprehensive list of software used by faculty as we look at desktop refreshment plans.

Thank you for your time. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me, or send an email to [anr-citas@udel.edu](mailto:anr-citas@udel.edu).

Best, Katy