

IFAS FACULTY ASSEMBLY

AGENDA

JANUARY 22, 2020

3:00 – 4:30

MCCARTY D G001

ROLL CALL	ALLAN BACON	SECRETARY
CALL TO ORDER	SHIRLEY BAKER	CHAIR
	PETTER DITTMAR	CHAIR ELECT
APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 2, 2020 MEETING MINUTES		

IFAS ASSEMBLY CHAIR REPORT DR. SHIRLEY BAKER

IFAS VP Search Update

- Search and screen Committee met on Jan 9
- Candidates for on campus interview selected
- Details likely to be emailed in coming weeks

IFAS UPDATE DR. JACK PAYNE, SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

IFAS VP Search Update | Dr. Payne knows all five candidates, they are the leaders of their land grants. Generally excited about the candidates

4 big, recent, IFAS things (never been prouder of IFAS) | **(1)** Global vegetable and flower team from Syngenta met with IFAS scientists, discussed 22 projects, Syngenta raved about their day. Early in game with Syngenta but future collaborations/support is promising. **(2)** Future of Food Conference, Keynote by Louise Frensko, UF has chance to be player in her attempts to develop agricultural analog to IPCC with UN. **(3)** Board of natural resources of national academy of sciences held board meeting at UF (competition). More good exposure for IFAS. **(4)** National institute of France Agriculture has zeroed in on IFAS work, interested in trading faculty back and forth.

Next round of 9 month appointments | First round of faculty conversions from 12 to 9 month appointments was somewhat more challenging than initially expected. ~80 faculty made the conversion during the first round of offerings. Last November, Jody Gentry (VP Human Resources) was notified by the State of Florida auditors that the next round of 9 month appointments cannot be announced until they (auditors) look at, and ultimately release, the announcement. As of today the State auditors haven't released announcement. Dr. Payne wants to have second round of conversions announced before he retires but, in case that doesn't happen, he is confident that his successor will get this taken care of.

Goals for next 6 months | (Climate Change and Producers) Throughout his time with IFAS Dr. Payne has battled to get agriculture to buy in to climate change. Been very tough. Recent events have helped producers turn a corner, and now large growers are beginning to organize themselves to incorporate climate change into management. Will be continuing these efforts and discussions. **(New positions)** Two finalists for **Sea Grant Director** have been interviewed; four finalists for **ONA Research Station Director** identified and will be interviewed in coming weeks; Ft Lauderdale REC Director will retire and search will be starting soon. Dr. Payne wants to get these wrapped up. **(A good year in state legislature, "most important")** IFAS completely out reoccurring money for numerous reasons (i.e. Scott-Desantis budget cuts took \$2 mil, many new hires to reach top 5 goal, general anti-agriculture view of

agriculture in state legislature). Friends in the legislature suggest incoming personnel may be more agriculturally friendly and Dr. Payne is hopeful about the outlook to recover recurring money that has been cut. **(Other challenges)** Still have ~25 vacant county extension positions. ~10-12 “Key” faculty positions coming from Department Chairs, while every position may not be filled, Dr. Payne is working with Chairs to try and fill all “needs” (number of needs and number of positions not necessarily equal)

GUEST

DR. RAY THOMAS, CHAIR, UF FACULTY SENATE

Provided overview of the charge and structure of Faculty Senate.

Currently focused on...

- Educational policy (creating, deleting, and modifying academic units)
- Faculty Retention (particularly junior faculty that receive tenure, expanding childcare on campus, securing paid parental leave). In discussions with Pres Fuchs, looking for announcement in July.
- Parking and transportation
- Improving student experience (mental health, sexual assault, green dot intervention). Dr. Thomas specifically is interested in incorporating experience of graduate students and post-docs into UF conceptualization of “student experience”.

UF currently doesn’t allow reimbursement for childcare when traveling on official business (i.e. meetings), Faculty senate is working towards reimbursement of such costs, will depend on funding source in the near future.

Three things (questions to be discussed) looking towards the future

- Retirement benefits used to be 9%, currently at 3%. Will it ever go up?
- Tuition lottery for TEAMS members but not faculty. Why? Will it change?
- How does IFAS fit into the 50 year plan?

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Tenure and Promotion Committee (no report, annual tasks complete)

CALS Curriculum Committee (Joel Brendemuhl)

- Things have slowed down as the numerous approvals from Fall have moved on to next levels of approval and are at various stages.
- In Dec and Jan 3: new graduate courses, 1 new undergrad course, 1 new undergrad certificate approved by committee.
- Changes in SLO’s in academic assessment plans in numerous departments have been approved.
- New PhD in plant breeding, received all external reviews (very positive, minor suggestions), hopefully moving to graduate council for their Feb agenda.
- UF Quest II having first trial this semester (courses not required) roughly half canceled due to low enrollment, CALS does have two Quest II courses that are being taught

Infrastructure and Resource Committee (no report)

Professional Welfare Committee (Lisa Lundy via Shirley Baker)

Working on document regarding T&P for non-tenure track positions

Faculty Senate (no report)

IFAS HR (Denise Bogart)

- IFAS Search Advocate Program started in 2016, 16 people trained, in 2019 it became required for all tenure track searches to have an advocate. Looking for more search advocates as the 16 members are getting worn out. May need to shorten training. Be on lookout for emails.
- Diversity and Inclusion Events: Mar 6 Women’s Suffrage event, Mar 12 Women in IFAS Community Event

- 2019 Salary Project. Phase I complete, 95 employees received raise on 1/1/2020. Currently moving on to Phase II which involves evaluating Titles, creating pay bands for titles in the same pay grade, updating position descriptions
- 113 grant funded employees are currently below paygrade (not an issue until the employee leaves and the position needs to be filled), 118 employees are above pay grade
- Tenure and promotion. Template not available yet. Workshops will be rolling out soon.

DEAN'S ROUNDTABLE

Dr. Elaine Turner, CALS Dean

- CALS Teaching and Advising Award winners have been determined
- Faculty opportunities
 - Jan 24- scholarship of teaching learning group, email sent to teaching list serve last week
 - Feb 7- instructional mini-grant proposals due (including DE instruction)
 - Feb 14- Travel grant proposals due
- Student opportunities
 - Feb 2- undergrad student award applications due
 - Feb 3- graduate student award applications due
 - Feb 15- 2020 ambassador applications due
- Events
 - Feb 6- CALS Career Expo
 - Feb 14- Annual Advising Conference
 - Feb 18-Spring Teaching Retreat
 - April 16- Scholarship and Leadership Awards Banquet
 - April 30- Doctoral Graduation Ceremony
 - May 1- University wide commencement
 - May 3- CALS Student Recognition Ceremony

Summer Teaching for Faculty that converted to 9 months assignment. Very few faculty who switched to 9 month appointment last round had summer teaching assignments. Worked with unit leaders on an individual faculty basis to figure out summer teaching assignments and support. Have various small pools of funding available to support summer teaching of 9 month faculty.

Dr. Robert Gilbert, Dean for IFAS Research

- Funding Opportunities
 - Emerging Enterprises Seed Fund \$1 million available. Proposals (5-75K) due Feb 20.
 - Equipment and Infrastructure awards. \$750,000 available. Due Feb 17.
 - OSBS/Forest System Jumpstart awards. \$250,000 available. Due Feb 17.
 - FFAR New innovator in Ag research award. No match required this year. Internal deadline Feb 12.
 - TARGET program. Fall call funded ~100 faculty. Spring call coming to support ~40 faculty (any day now). Due Feb 21.
- Dates
 - May 1- IFAS Research Forum
 - May 4- Collaboration in Biodiversity Research Invasive Species Meeting

Shared video by Sherry Larkin regarding IDC (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kg3Imu5iByg>)

Dr. Nick Place, Dean for Extension

- Alternative Enterprises Summit an extreme success.
- One candidate for Director of Hastings Agricultural Center has visited, three more coming.

- 4H Related Information: Maintenance Building Fire at Camp Cloverleaf caused ~\$120,000. Jan 30th is 4H day at State Capitol (coordinating with FFA for students talking to legislatures. Jan 30th IFAS is also holding a 4H alumni reception. In process of establishing 4H caucus comprised of state legislatures. Trying to get \$1.6 mil for 4H support and improvements of 4H facilities.
- Jan 15 and 16 kicks off Training for Extension Specialists focusing on T and P and EDIS publications (7 total trainings, 5 at RECs, 2 on campus). Specialists should have received email.
- UF Health IFAS Extension collaboration moving forward fast and big. Pilot project starting now, probably spilling into with 3-5 counties. Health, nutrition education funded by private donors. Other major donors very interested too.

OTHER ISSUES & ACTIONS

Matt Whiles, Chair, Soil and Water Sciences Department

Presented a proposed name change to the Soil and Water Sciences Department (changing to Soil, Water, and Ecosystem Sciences). Motivated by (1) better describes what the department does and (2) evidence suggests “ecosystem” resonates more with undergrads and therefore may increase enrollment. Discussions with production agriculture indicates that “Ecosystem” similarly resonates with that group. Name change has 97% support from department, the support from IFAS Department Chairs, the support of IFAS Deans, and support of current undergrad and grad students. IFAS Faculty Assembly will vote on the proposed name change at the next meeting.

Upcoming IFAS Faculty Assembly Meetings

Wed Feb 19
Thur April 11
Wed May 20

OPEN DISCUSSION FROM ASSEMBLY FLOOR

None

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

None