

College of Sciences Leadership meeting
March 10, 2009

Gil Engdahl chaired. Meeting called to order at 3:32 PM.

Present: Gil Engdahl, John Osterhout, Kelly McCoy, Paul Swets, Tim Roden

Announcements: Grady reminded all present that they will be required to attend a mini-retreat on April 3rd from 1:30 till 3:30

1. Recruitment and Retention (R&R) Ideas

Gil described his RAMS (Recruiting Ag Majors) program which selects student into an elite group which visits high school (particularly where there are relationships with the high school Ag teachers), FFA conventions, etc. for the purpose of doing peer recruiting. This also acts as a retention device for the best students who participate.

Kelly described the pending SPURRS summer boot camp, JAMP, and the current attempts to revise the SAS funding model.

There was general discussion about the usefulness of student research and engagement as a retention tool.

Discussion about the best option which is to recruit aggressively from community colleges. Grady suggested we try to co-op some community college faculty by including them in a "Tex-Prep-style" summer enrichment program. He offered to pay recruiting expenses from his M&O until depleted – preferably towards the end of the fiscal year.

2. Enrollment Projections for reaching 10,000 students

Grady cited the enrollment trends by department data and the number of majors data provided recently by Sarah Logan and reiterated that the R&R responses are due to him by this Friday, the 13th. Grady also stated that he is working on beefing up the T&P policy language so that faculty will get meaningful rewards for R&R activities. He pointed out that he personally will treat such activities very favorably for department head annual goals.

3. Appoint an official ad hoc committee to pursue Environmental Science degree planning.

There was much discussion about how to get this long-standing desire jump-started. Grady suggested the chairs identify competent faculty who can use this work as a T&P plum. He will coordinate through his office and serve as a resource. Chairs were asked to actively recruit committee members.

4. Nominees for gonfaloniers

Dione Bailey, Lorrie Branum, Janet Maxwell and Mark Sonntag.

5. Final design for new gonfalon.
Despite repeated proselytization for the last 18 months, there has been almost no faculty input or comment on the new gonfalon design. Bixler and Zarnowski are the sole exceptions. Grady is working on a final design (due this coming Monday) which will be based on his original concept of a Vitruvian Man on an Earth disk.

6. Budget drafts and capital budgets. Everyone described their new funding requests which were prioritized as follows:

\$ 7,553	Increased M&O increase to cover field operations.
\$ 4,000	Recruiting expenses.
\$ 41,400	Morning Math Lab Staffing (with coordinator) for PM classes.
\$ 2,964	Increase in student wages for CS support student workers.
\$ 38,000	Lab Safety Officer and Inventory Control Specialist for Cavness.
\$185,780	Convert permanent Lecturers to Instructors (Math).
\$ 38,000	Convert permanent Lecturer to Instructor (Biology).
\$ 58,306	Equalize Instructor/Senior Instructor per May 2008 memorandum.
\$ 51,817	New faculty line in Molecular Biology.
\$427,820	Total of new requests