

**OUTREACH COUNCIL
MINUTES
May 28, 2002**

Attendance: Doug McAlister, Edmund Henneke, George Crofts, Greg Boardman, Hap Bonham, Jim Blair, Jim Johnson, John Dooley, Judith Jones, Ted Settle, Tim Franklin, Valerie Giddings
Absent: Beth Hanson, Bob Dunay, Clara Cox

Handouts: *Small Grants Programs; HR&CC Goals 2001-2002; Workshop Registration, Virginia Department of Health-Office of Water Programs; Environmental Lodging; English Language Institute of Virginia Tech – Outline of Presentation, sample schedule*

1. Welcome
John Dooley welcomed all to the May meeting and introduced Marie Suthers-McCabe as the representative from the College of Veterinary Medicine for Dr. Bob Martin, and Judith Snoke and Carlos Folgar, with the English Language Institute.

2. College Issues and Announcements
 - Judith Jones announced that CALS is in search of a new associate dean for residential instruction. She relayed to the council the loss of 111 people, which includes 76 extension agents, possibly retiring under the Alternative Severance Option. She also mentioned that the TOPS (Technology Opportunity Program) in rural Virginia has been launched and has much promise in expanding connectivity to targeted rural areas.

 - Ed Henneke announced a possible cooperative research agreement with Aberdeen Test Center. He updated the council on the National Institute for Aerospace Outside the Gates of NASA Langley proposal, which was submitted May 1. He informed the council of the continuing difficulties with ODU and Hampton Universities, but he thinks the chances of winning the proposal are very good. The winner will be announced by the end of the summer.

 - Marie Suthers-McCabe announced Dr. Martin is away on a cancer surgery sabbatical, which is something the veterinary school is interested in doing.

 - George Crofts announced being part of a proposal going in through UVA on science education, which will involve a great deal of Outreach. He mentioned SARHC with UVA, which is moving along.

 - Jim Blair announced the possibilities being discussed regarding graduate programs in Danville. He informed the council on a contingency that will be coming from Wake Forrest.

 - Valerie Giddings informed the council of the Center for Real Life Kitchen Designs programs, which are currently ongoing. She discussed a new initiative in the Department of Human Development, which uses marriage and family therapy to enhance business relations, and announced the publishing of an annual newsletter, which council members will be receiving.

- Doug McAlister informed the council of an EDA audit that was conducted on May 15th, which turned out good results. Current programs mentioned were the Virginia Downtown Development Association and a joint project with the Appalachian Regional Commission and the Smithsonian Institute. One future project being discussed is the building of a Country Music Hall of Fame near Bristol, VA.
- Ted Settle informed the council that he and Tim Franklin participated in a meeting with North Carolina State and the University of North Carolina to explore how the universities could work together, using Danville as the focal point, to help serve the needs of people in both Virginia and North Carolina. Additionally, Ted along with other Continuing Education administrators hope to meet with the director of NSF to explore solutions for some growing concerns about how adult learners are not targeted in certain NSF programs.
- Hap Bonham discussed the Executive MBA Program, which will startup in the Fall, 2003. It was agreed discussions regarding this project will be added to the next meeting's agenda. He announced Dr. Barry Moore will become the new director of the MPDP program effective July 1.
- Tim Franklin announced that the official ground breaking for the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research will be in the next few weeks. An application to fund additional research space is being developed to submit to the EDA. Other current projects identified by Tim included the Mechanical Engineering Project; a Bioscience initiative; a study with the Research Triangle Institute in the area of polymers; and a possible Center for Excellence for Molecular Toxicology.

3. New Business

a. English Language Institute

Judith Snoke, Director of the English Language Institute, gave an update and overview of the institute. The Institute has been provisionally accredited, with permanent accreditation expected in December. The success of the Institute involve fifteen graduates becoming graduate students at Virginia Tech in 2000 – 2001, eight entered the MBA program at Radford, twenty students became undergraduates at Virginia Tech, and twenty have entered into community colleges and graduate schools in Virginia. Handout information included qualifications the institute expects from its faculty and information about the development of an effective undergraduate orientation program, funded through a student success grant.

A student at the English Language Institute, Carlos Folgar, briefly told the council about how the institute has assisted him in learning the English language. Issues and concerns Judith raised were concerning departmental support, testing, and funding for additional classes. It was agreed the new Dean of the Graduate School, Karen DePauw, would be informed of the potential and service of the English Language Institute, when she arrives August 1.

b. Master Pet Guardian Volunteer Coordinator Program

Marie Suthers-McCabe, Associate Professor of Human Companion Animal Interaction, gave the council information on various programs she is involved in, one being the Master Pet Guardian Volunteer Coordinator Program. She relayed to the council the need of a volunteer coordinator. Judith Jones suggested she check with the 111 faculty, which are retiring and might be interested in volunteering.

c. COTA Program Update

Greg Boardman gave the council a brief summary on COTA. He informed the council that numbers are continually coming in, with one hundred programs scheduled this year. He reported to the council that this year should be similar to last year. He continued to report \$150,000 been awarded in small grants, with the continuation of grants through the year 2006. He shared recent products produced by COTA, as well as upcoming programs. Updates were given on the standings of the COTA fellows. Announcements included the naming of two new fellows, Jim Bohland and Bob Martin, and continuing COTA partnerships with Seafast and American Society of Civil Engineering. It was concluded that there are still resources to support programs, and the council should communicate this as an opportunity to the faculty within their colleges.

d. Restructuring Issues

The council was informed that an announcement should be forthcoming that extended campus centers, with the exception of Northern Virginia, and international programs will be administratively moved as a part of University Outreach.

4. Other Items

John Dooley shared with the council updates on the new hotel and conference center. He informed the council that groundbreaking is to take place in March of 2003, with an anticipated opening date of April 2005. He relayed to the council that it is not currently known whether the hotel will be under contracted management or self operated.

Respectfully submitted,
Holly Meadows
Recording Secretary