

BioSci Faculty Meeting  
May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
12 p.m., Stephens Room

Meeting begins at 12:05

Jerry greets group. Reminds group it's the last faculty meeting of the AY. Thanks all for their efforts, especially in a challenging financial climate. Reminds group of departmental poll sent out to obtain feedback on departmental operations, specifically, administration, human resources, contracts & grants, IT, student services, advising, and facilities maintenance. Pleased with results, noting all areas received overall ratings of 4 or 5 (Satisfactory or Excellent). Advises group the dept. has received budget orders from the college, which is still stripped. Asks group to keep in mind that any new investments will require that funds be taken from an existing investment. Notes today the group will also receive info on the dept. strategic plan, on which Vicki Martin will provide an update. The hope is by the beginning of the AY we'll have a plan in place we're all happy with.

Next Rob Smart gives intro of Adjunct faculty candidate Ricky Langley, who was a former adjunct faculty member with Toxicology before the department was created. Received BA at NCSU, MD at Wake Forest, MPH at UNC Chapel Hill. Ricky is a public health physician and serves as a conduit between NCSU and the Department of Human and Health Services. He is active with the CHHE, integrated health sciences facility core, translational core, and serves to help members transfer their research into public health policy. He also serves on an internal advisory committee. Also involved with Brian Reich (Statistics dept.), and published a paper generated from a pilot project: [Adverse Neurodevelopmental effects and hearing loss in children associated with manganese in well water, North Carolina, USA](#). His work serves cooperative extensive and outreach, and he even generates fish consumption advisories in NC. He lectures in Applied Ecology on human health in the environment. Active member in Toxicology and several students gained employment through their connection with him. He is a great connection with DHHS, an avenue which is underutilized.

Next Jamie Bonner gives intro on Adjunct faculty candidate Sue Fenton. Sue is with NIEHS, and would be a great adjunct member with Toxicology. BS, MS and PhD from University of Wisconsin. She is the primary group leader in Reproductive Endocrinology in the National Toxicology Program Laboratory. She holds adjunct positions with CVM, UNC Chapel Hill, and NC Central. Research mentor for over a dozen grad students and has mentored over 20 undergrads, and long list of post docs. Awarded new investigator award through NIEHS, co-mentor for current tox grad student. Contributions to the department would include lectures on reproductive endocrinology, collaborations, grad student committees (1/newest incoming student), research opportunities, and access to equipment.

Next Lara Mekeel presents info on start-up and expenditures: Applies to faculty who have start up or retention through COS. The hope is to have a balanced budget in FY 18, and budgets are very tight with all funds, so with start-up and retention in FY 18, the provost is requiring that the college provide much more detailed reports. Next year the college will create budgets for start-up spending, so Lara will be contacting faculty before July 1 to project how much each predicts to spend in FY 18 (working with her and your accountant). She advises to budget more than you might need, because this year the college is really going to hold the department accountable to those numbers.

Faculty member asks about process to cover unforeseen circumstances, such as a hiring a post-doc or broken equipment.

Lara advises faculty can always submit a request, but that if we are adding to one place then we have to take from another and zero out at the dept. level, but it's case-by-case basis.

Jerry adds the scenario of what happens if all start-up is not spent, whether one would then lose those funds.

Lara advises that money would not be lost. She adds that salaries will be moved to state dollars, so faculty start-up will no longer be used to pay fringe.

Faculty Member asks is there is a formula to determine F&A return.

Lara advises one exists, and that the department has previously given back 25% of what it received from the college, and this year was 50% less than last year, but she isn't certain on exactly what that formula is.

Jerry reminds group the Dean is looking at possibility of moving F&A directly back to those who generated it.

Vicki Martin provides overview of the strategic plan, which is based on 5 major goals of the university strategic plan. She and her designated teams have come up with goals for the dept. that will fit under the big university umbrella goals. Goals, action items, and metrics. Vicki informs group of the hard work and dedication these faculty teams have put forth for the SP, and expresses excitement for the future of our department. Hopes to finish up draft by end of next week, which will be placed in a Google Doc so the department can comment and share thoughts.

Jerry adds that conversations during one-on-ones regarding these goals have been rewarding because of faculty excitement, which is infectious and has been great for inspiring teamwork. Gives credit to Vicki for her work in the SP.

Next Dahlia Nielsen presents info on her role in the college advisory research committee, which is comprised of 1 member of each department in COS. Notes an issue recently discussed with John Blondin was the subject of overhead return, and whether it should come directly to faculty. She states he sincerely wants to hear from faculty, so if you'd like to provide feedback, to communicate with her to bring to the committee.

Faculty member asks if there is a mechanism for paying equipment infrastructure grants.

Dahlia confirms issues like these can be brought to them for answers. Notes this has not been discussed yet as they have only met a couple of times, but things like matching funds, etc. If you have a specific question you would like her to bring forward to move up the line, please let her know. Notes there is also a university-wide research committee for the eRA system, which will be used to track pre-award to post awards, to close out, etc. Rob Smart is on that committee, so the department has various members working on different levels of this.

Faculty member asks if F&A has been the major topic.

Dahlia confirms it has been a big one.

Jerry notes the agenda has been covered and asks if there are any additional items from the group.

Jane Lubischer raises the topic of budget, noting that LSFY is going to have more students to teach and advise because of the unexpected freshman/transfer for both fall and spring. She asks if the dean is retaining any funds to address this jump, as it is going to happen in all departments.

Jerry advises he has made the dean aware of this jump, as well as the fact that resources and faculty have gone down. States the dean is happy about the jump, but if he is aware of what the strategy will be to account for it he hasn't shared it. One major activity at college this summer will be combo of finding out what it costs to teach a SCH, then a study of each faculty member to determine what they are generating, the idea being that they want everyone teaching at full capacity. So there's going to be a lot of spreadsheets and data-gathering. Jerry suggests that if deep down inside you feel you might not be teaching enough, [group laughs] to be thinking about what you would want to teach if you had to.

Jerry reminds group of BioSci/AE ice cream social, Bill Grant's reception and graduation.

Meeting concludes.