

# DAFVM Faculty Senate Meeting minutes

January 10<sup>th</sup> 2019

1.30 pm in Bost Room 205

**Call to order** 1:30 Bindu Nanduri

## **Roster sign-up**

**Present:** Taya Marquardt Ezell, Simone Hinz, Skip Jack, Caleb Lemley, Jonas King, Anna Linhoss, Jay McCurdy, Florencia Meyer, Bindu Nanduri, Brittney Oliver, Donna Peterson, George Popescu, Amanda Stone, Josh Maples, Kelley Wamsley, Andrew Stevens, Porter Swann, David Christiansen, Julie Parker, George Hopper, Brent Frey, Mariah Morgan, Raja Reddy, Tricia Knight, Stephen Meyers.

**Excused:** John Willis, Tom Allen, Wes Neal, John Long.

**Absent:** Lifang Yan, Jason Street, Keun Seo, Rebecca Melanson, Matt Griffin, Charles Fulford (Taze), Jason Camp.

**Reading of the minutes.** October 2018 meeting notes read and approved

**Standing committee reports:** None.

## **Office of the Vice President : Dr. Moore**

- Legislative session started on Tuesday and there is good representation of the University in Jackson. No expected increase in budget for MSU even if tax collection has increased substantially recently.
- MSU has climbed up to the 9<sup>th</sup> position in NSF rankings for Ag research. We have been in the top 20 for many years among 277 other universities. This is a noteworthy accomplishment. MSU obtained ~85 million in grants & contracts in FY18. Additional ~31 million were through the MSU foundation.
- Ag booklets are being printed and will aid in communicating with the legislature.
- Construction of Poultry Science building has begun and is making good progress and is expected to finish on time. The animal science building will likely be occupied before spring is over.

## **Dean of the College: Dr. Burger**

- USAID Innovation Lab Award has been attained by PI Dr. Mark Lawrence. It is a collaboration between CVM, FWRC and MAFES. This project is ~20 million, and will be managed by host institution (MSU..)
- Dr. Lawrence will determine how to administer USAID funds internally, if available. The format might be similar to the EPSCoR funds managed by Dr. Teresa Gammill, that had a seed grant program
- Reminder of a few programs supported by CALS and FWRC.
  - 1) URSP (undergraduate research scholar's program), with the mission of including more students into the STEM pipeline and Ag sciences.

- 2) SRI (special research initiative). Award amount: \$50,000 for one year to enable researchers to obtain preliminary data to be utilized for obtaining extramural federal awards. \$1.4 million awarded to a total of 26 projects.
- 3) Assistance with Grant writing. This year is the 3rd cycle of the DAFVM grant writer workshop (detailed discussion regarding this in February DAFVM senate meeting).
- The Dean's office seeks suggestions to make Digital Measures more amenable or easier to use.
- Updates on how to proceed with the governmental shutdown: DOJ has given clear guidelines. If you are working on a grant from a federal agency then shutdown does not influence you. On certain projects the program officer (PO) can decide that their oversight or input is necessary for the project to continue, so in that case you should not work on the project. Some situations are difficult to handle, for example when the federal employee is also MSU employee. If a written stop work order from PO comes, the project needs to stop.

**Dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine: Dr. Hoblet.**

- USAID fish innovation lab: MSU is partnering with Texas A&M, Texas State University, Washington University at St. Louis, University of Florida and University of Rhode island. The total award is 15 millions over a 5 year period, for research into "food need" countries like Bangladesh, Uganda, Nigeria and Ghana. If you have the skill and expertise that fits the project needs, there could be a possibility for obtaining competitive funds.
- Invitations for Vet student candidates: January 15th is the deadline to respond to the invitation for interview. There were 1400 applications, and the admissions committee developed a list of 360 to come 1st week in Feb for interviews.
- Scholarships: 8-10 scholarships are offered (20K and 25K) only for tuition. 3.75 or above GPA to qualify (127 candidates).
- Update on "Little Bill" who is now over 14 pounds. Little Bill is a dwarf calf born before Christmas weighing less than 8 pounds. It spent some time in intensive care. Social media interest in Little Bill has reached about 3-4 million hits.

**Director of Extension: Dr. Steven Martin.**

- Faculty with more than 50% extension appointment will get a new computer due to ITS issues on several fronts.
- Season for meetings - north, central, coast extension meetings. Important to get input on things we should focus our research. Encourage participation in these regional meetings..
- Plant & Soil Sciences department head interviews will start in the coming weeks.

**Visitor: Dr. Lanny Pace Executive Director, Mississippi Veterinary Research & Diagnostic Laboratory System.**

"Brief overview of the MSU-CVM Veterinary Diagnostic Lab System and Overview of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) testing"

- . Lab procedures and regulations, federal approval to test for given diseases, etc.
- CWD - This lab only tests by ELISA and get a "suspected positive", then needs to ship the sample to NVSL for them to do a confirmatory test (Immunohistochemistry).

**Holland Faculty Senate: Dr. Jason Barrett.**

- Wireless Msu1x is no longer the network to use around campus. Everyone should be using EDUroam
- SOP adjustment/corrections: 10.02, 13.15, 13.24
- Please complete evaluations for your respective department heads.
- A+/- survey, please fill out.

**Digital measures assessment update Dr. Kelley Wamsley.**

- Accepting all recommendations for Digital Measures to put together working operating procedures.
- Met with Tracy Welley to make changes. Drs. A. Stone, C. Lemley and K. Wamsley will brainstorm the common problems and generate a “general guidelines” or “best practices” document.
- Tracy Welley does not have an administrative person in Extension to communicate and take care of extension problems. Scott Willard is the CALS/FWRC person of contact. Someone is needed as an Extension contact for DM.

**Chair Report: None.**

**Motion to adjourn** made and approved, adjourn 2:50 pm.