Agricultural Faculty Meeting Minutes
March 23, 2021
Purdue Zoom (https://purdue-edu.zoom.us/j/97105744480?pwd=NUtjcUV6MjJBVXJsa25QNmdYbXZGQT09)
Attendance – 67
Presiding – Dean Karen Plaut

Call to Order

Dean Karen Plaut called the meeting to order at 3:02 PM.

Approval of Agenda

Joseph M. Anderson introduced a motion to approve the modified agenda. Andrew Mesecar seconded the motion. The agenda was approved by vote using an online poll in Zoom (46 “yes” votes with the rest not voting).

Reports and Updates

Due to Covid-19 and Zoom meeting fatigue, Agenda & Policy decided not to invite a speaker for the Faculty meeting in order to shorten the meeting.

Consent Agenda – Action Items

Items on the consent agenda were considered. Dean Plaut asked if anyone wished to remove any item from the consent agenda for additional discussion. Hearing none, Kathryn Orvis moved to approve all items on the consent agenda. Gerald Shively seconded the motion and it was passed using an online poll in Zoom (52 “yes” votes, 1 “abstain” vote and 10 individuals who did not vote).

Memorial Resolutions

A memorial resolution was presented for Eldon L. Hood by Ronald Turco.

A moment of silence was observed in remembrance of this emeritus member of the faculty. A copy of the resolution is appended to these minutes.

Report Items

Standing Committee Reports:

1. Agenda and Policy Committee – Joseph Anderson
   Joe thanked the committee for their time and effort. Set the agenda for COA Faculty Meeting twice a year.

   This spring the committee focused on…
   (1) J-term. Agenda & Policy decided to put together a survey to send to the COA Faculty.
Cherise Hall, Vice Provost for Finance and Strategic Initiatives, has been looking at Covid-19 data over the past year. Cherise gave an update on what’s been collected, how the data is used, and how the data will drive decisions regarding the Fall 2021 term. Dean Karen Plaut added that some individuals had asked if the Covid-19 vaccine would be mandated and the current answer is “no” because when a vaccine is under emergency use authorization it cannot be mandated. It depends on where the vaccine ends up in the fall. Karen also encouraged department heads to make sure they included their Agenda & Policy representative in their departmental faculty meetings as it is a good way to get information to and from departments.

2. Area Promotions – Dean Karen Plaut
Karen welcomed Linda S. Prokopy as the new department head of Horticulture & Landscape Architecture and John R. Blanton as the new department head of Animal Sciences.

The following have gone up through the Area Promotions committee to the University, but have not yet gone through the Board Of Trustees (BoT):
17 Assistant Professors recommended for Associate Professor; 1 individual was not recommended to the University.
4 Associate Professors recommended for Full Professor; 1 individual was not moved up to the University level.
1 Clinical Professor to Associate Professor; 1 individual did not move forward.
1 Professor moving to Research Professor.

Karen stated the College is hopeful that the approval from the BoT comes on April 9, 2021.

3. Curriculum and Student Relations Committee – Kathryn Orvis
Kathryn also thanked the committee. She then referenced the Consent Agenda which was just reviewed and passed. Kathryn highlighted the changes to the International Studies Minor, beginning discussions around the Undergraduate Global Food Systems—Undecided and Exploratory track through the Office of Academic Programs, as well as lively and spirited discussions on the COA Pass/Not-Pass policy. She also mentioned the continued discussion of the Multicultural Awareness requirement and the list of current courses. Kathryn stated that individuals from the Purdue Office of Diversity and Inclusion would be attending a future CSRC meeting to discuss the Justice-Equity-Diversity-Inclusion (JEDI) list of courses their office recently created. She added that we may be able to use the JEDI list to add to or broaden the COA Multicultural Awareness list. Kathryn closed by adding that CSRC has also discussed J-term and provided feedback to Associate Dean Christine Wilson.

4. Grade Appeals – Associate Dean Christine Wilson
There were no grade appeals to report.

University Senate Report – Robert Pruitt
Bob began by congratulating Colleen Brady on her recent election as Vice Chair of University Senate. He then stated the Senate discussed the following topics so far this term: Extension of Deadline to change grading systems or withdraw from class; an aspirational resolution about child care—to see what is needed and to make sure it is cost effective for all, not just for the faculty; and finally, a proposal to delay J-term until January 2023.
Karen inquired about J-term and whether or not the Faculty Senate has to approve the University Calendar which would impact J-term. Bob responded that “no,” the Senate was told the Board of Trustees has authority to make that decision.

Joe Anderson asked about an item from Educational Policy regarding requiring grades be given to students at various points of each term. Joe wanted to point out that these grades would just be estimates which would not take into account grading on a curve or other changes that may occur over the course of a semester. Joe wondered if this was being considered. Bob responded that this agenda item was pulled from their most recent meeting due to a technical issue and he was unsure how much he could discuss. He concluded by stating Joe’s concerns were noted and that the understanding that grades could change were part of the proposal.

See report that is appended to these minutes.

Dean’s Report – Dean Karen Plaut

Dean Plaut began her report by thanking everyone—so many people went above and beyond! She stated that 65-70% of the College’s courses are in-person. Karen then commented on the College’s rankings—#5 for Most Innovative U.S. University, 5th Best for Student Engagement, 4th Best Value Institution in U.S., and only University with top 10 Agriculture & Engineering Programs according to U.S. News and World Report. Purdue’s College of Ag & Forestry is ranked #7 in U.S. and we are the #12 Ag program in the World, though Karen commented that the latter may be incorrect and that we are actually #15.

Dean Plaut turned her focus to faculty honors including Mark Russell, recipient of the Fredrick L. Hovde Award of Excellence; Liz Flaherty, recipient of the USDA Excellence in Teaching Award; and Bruce Hamaker, recipient of the Spirit of the Land Grant Award. We had three American Association for the Advancement of Science Fellows this year—Mary Catherine Aime, Jeff Dukes, and Jin-Rong Xu. Brian Dilkes, Haley Oliver, and Aaron Patton were named 2021 University Scholars, and outside of the Faculty, Andrew Oppy and Jo Thomas, both from Agricultural Economics, won Purdue’s Outstanding Advisor and Outstanding New Professional respectively. Dean Plaut remarked that excellence is spread throughout the College and not just in one unit—every department has people doing “top notch” work.

Dean Plaut introduced three new faculty for Spring 2021, then commented on Fall 2021 admissions numbers—as of March 15, 1504 Undergraduates have been admitted and 331 of those have accepted. It is very important that we keep our numbers up! She highlighted the Spring 2021 Awards Banquet and two new hires in the Office of Academic Programs—Dr. Alyssa Powers (Retention Specialist) and Ms. Andrea Lutz (Assistant Director of Undergraduate Recruitment).

Dean Plaut recognized and congratulated those who received Instructional Equipment Grants. She added that research levels are near pre-pandemic levels and proposal submissions are up at this point in the year. Karen focused next on facilities, including the Ag Alumni Seed Phenotyping Facility; with a second chamber being added, it is now the largest automated phenotyping growth chamber at any university. Also, Pat Smoker has set up Ag Data Services to help with bioinformatics, data sciences, build pipelines, etc. In the international realm, Jerry Shively and Peter Hurst are leading a Global Agriculture Innovation Forum with more than 1000 registrants from over 90 countries.

Dean Plaut stated that the Office of Multicultural Programs has new hires as well—Zachary Brown, responsible for URM undergraduate & graduate recruitment and retention; and Skye Kantola, Program Coordinator for DEI efforts. The Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI) will be rolled out for the entire college. There will be Town Hall meetings to go over the process. Then the Center for Intercultural Learning, Mentorship, Assessment & Research (CILMAR) will do the debrief—group and individual. The IDI is an individual development tool meant to help individuals find out where they are and where
they can develop to become more culturally aware. This is one of the benchmarks for the COA Strategic Plan. Karen talked about the work of Extension, where we have seen a 67% increase (620,000) in attendees at learning events. Broadband is a necessity, NOT a luxury. Purdue Extension continues to help local communities—over 1 million servings of food produced! She added that 2550 participants completed mental health education programs. Regarding Summer Salary, all new faculty hires will have academic year appointments. Until now, we had many on fiscal year appointments, including those in Extension. This resulted in faculty doing work during the summer, but not getting paid for the work. Karen then explained how the new Summer Salary structure would work starting summer of 2022.

Dean Plaut ended her comments by mentioning the COA Strategic Plan and that when she meets with individual departments she will discuss the plan and its benchmarks. We plan to have benchmarks that we reach with this plan.

Dean Plaut’s presentation is included in the document that is appended to these minutes.

Adjournment

Joseph M. Anderson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ronald Turco seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 3:57 PM.

Video Recording

A video recording of the meeting can be found here (please note this link expires on January 22, 2022): https://app.box.com/s/q971lb4jj8kk794f2z1lkzw1yyx1l62m

Next Meeting

The 2021 Fall Semester Agricultural Faculty meeting is scheduled for 3:00 PM on Wednesday, December 1. It has yet to be determined if the meeting will be held in-person in the Dean’s Auditorium or if it will be held virtually.

Respectfully Submitted,

Timothy P. Kerr
Secretary, Agricultural Faculty
Thank You
National and World Rankings

- **#5** Most U.S. Innovative University  
  (U.S. News & World Report 2020)
- **#5** Best for Student Engagement  
  (Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Ed 2021)
- **#9** Best Public Institution in U.S.
- **#4** Best Value Institute in U.S.  
  (Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Ed 2021)

**Only University with Top 10 Ag and Engineering Programs** (U.S. News & World Report 2020)
National and World Rankings

• #7 College of Ag & Forestry in U.S.
• #12 Ag program in the world
  (QS Top Universities 2020)
• #1 Ag & Biological Engineering
  Grad and Undergrad programs
  (2020 US News & World Report)

Mark Russell
Frederick L. Hovde
Award of Excellence

Elizabeth Flaherty
USDA Excellence in Teaching Award

Bruce Hamaker
Spirit of the Land Grant Award
Mary Catherine Aime, Jeffrey Dukes, Jin-Rong Xu  
American Association for the Advancement of Science Fellows

Brian Dilkes, Haley Oliver, Aaron Patton  
2021 University Scholars

Andy Oppy, Jo Thomas – Ag Econ  
Outstanding Advisor, Outstanding New Advisor
Purdue – New Faculty Spring 2021

Barry Pittendrigh
ENTM
Pest Management

Caitlin Proctor
ABE
Water Microbiome

2 New Faculty Starting Later in 2021

Julia Bello-Bravo
ASEC
Community Engagement

Daniel Quinn
AGRY
Corn Extension

Dr. Linda Prokopy
Horticulture and Landscape Architecture Head
Started January 1st

Dr. John Blanton
Animal Science Head
Started February 1st

Food Science Head Search
In Progress
Fall 2021 Undergraduate Numbers as of March 15

- Admitted: 1504 (-1.9%)
- Accepted: 331 (+1.8%)

OAP New Hires

Dr. Alyssa Powers
Retention Specialist
Started March 15

Andrea Lutz
Asst. Director – Undergraduate Recruitment
Starts April 1
- **Instructional Equipment Grants**
  - **Biochemistry:** Preparing Students for Molecular Life Science Careers through Innovative Research-Based Laboratory Teaching
  - **Botany & Plant Pathology:** Keeping the Pace in Plant Science Education

**Congratulations**
Thank you!

- Research activities at levels near pre-pandemic levels and operating safely
- Proposal submissions continue to outpace prior years’ submissions
- Increased research publications in past year – data to be shared by end of semester
Facilities and services to support research

- Ag Alumni Seed Phenotyping Facility
- Indiana Corn and Soybean Innovation Center
- Bioinformatics Core
- Electron Microscopy Core
- Ag Data Services

Second Chamber Expansion of the Ag Alumni Seed Phenotyping Facility

Coming Summer 2021

Largest Automated Phenotyping Growth Chamber Center at any university
• Partnership between USDA’s Foreign Ag Service & Purdue’s Office of International Programs in Agriculture
• More than 1,000 registrants from more than 90 countries

https://ag.purdue.edu/globalaginnovationforum/

Anticipated Innovation Themes:
• Farms and Farmers of the Future – current
• Innovations in Genetic Improvement of Ag Systems – beginning May 4
• Innovations in Post-Harvest Management – beginning June 29
• Innovations in Entrepreneurship, Especially Among Youth – beginning August 24
• Innovations in Information and Communication Technologies – beginning October 19
• Innovations in Scaling – beginning December 14
New Hires

Zachary Brown
Responsible for URM undergraduate & graduate recruitment & retention

Skye Kantola
Program coordinator for DEI efforts
**Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI)** - An instrument that assesses an individual’s sensitivity to cultural differences

- OMP to hold Town Hall meetings for each department
- Faculty & staff will take IDI assessment within primary department
- 3 parts to IDI process: Completing Inventory, Group Debrief & Individual Debrief
- Center for Intercultural Learning, Mentorship, Assessment & Research (CILMAR) will facilitate individual IDI debriefs
• 67% increase = 620,000 attendees at learning events
• Broadband is a necessity, NOT a luxury
  • **8000+** youth with NEW Computer Science Projects through Google & National 4-H Council
  • **13,000** youth with UAV program – NEW Digital Ag Curriculum is being developed
• Best Overall Online Urban Gardening Program – TreeHugger Magazine

2020 Annual Report Online
extension.purdue.edu/annualreport/
Continue to help local communities

- More than 1 million servings of food produced
- Reached 1,200 local leaders in 86 counties
- 2,550 participants completed mental health education programs
- 43% of Indiana farmers completed PARP program

Orange County PARP Training
Summer Salary – Tenure Track Extension Faculty

- Issues
  - All new faculty hires have academic year appts
  - Faculty are doing Extension work in summer but are not paid to do the work
- NO change to existing summer salary
- Existing contracts will be honored
Summer Salary - Tenure Track Faculty doing Extension work

- For new faculty, after start-up funding is exhausted
- For Faculty with little to no Extension appointments
- Proposal based system for summer funding
  - Up to 3 years
  - Up to 10 weeks, no support for weeks 11, 12, or 13
  - Report in Digital Measures required
  - Proposals typically 18 months in advance for planning
  - Reviewed by Extension department coordinators
- Starts summer of 2022.
QUESTIONS
Dr. Eldon Hood was born December 19, 1923, on the family farm in Tyrone, Oklahoma, to Henry and Margaret (Meyer) Hood. Dr. Hood's youth included the experience of growing up on a panhandle wheat farm in the heart of the dust bowl during the great depression. In 1941, he graduated from Eureka High School, and in the fall of 1941, he began college at Oklahoma State University (OSU). In May of 1943, he enlisted in the Army, eventually ending up in Europe, where he was decorated with a Purple Heart after being seriously wounded in combat at the Battle of the Bulge. Dr. Hood was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army in January, 1946.

After his discharge, Eldon returned to OSU, earning a B.S. and then M.S. degree in 1949. At graduation, he took a position in Mandan, North Dakota, at the USDA Experimental Station. While in Mandan, Eldon met Mary Kathryn George, and they were married in January of 1953. Eldon and Mary returned to the family farm in Tyrone and, in doing so, increased the town's population to 263. Eldon realized that he missed students and teaching, and while living in Tyrone, he took a job with the Agronomy Department staff at Panhandle State in Goodwell, Oklahoma. He worked at Panhandle State until 1957, when he moved his family to West Lafayette to pursue a Ph.D. which he earned in 1964. After completing his Ph.D. Dr. Hood continued in service to the department until his retirement in 1990.

While at Purdue, Dr. Hood was primarily focused on teaching and advising. He taught various courses supporting the Agronomy curriculum, including Forage Crops, Grain Grading, and Seed Technology. Eldon was head of the Soil Testing Lab for 12 years when Purdue Agronomy operated that service lab for Indiana crop producers before the emergence of the commercial soil testing industry. Dr. Hood served as faculty Adviser for the Agronomy Club and coached the Crops Judging Team to national success in collegiate competitions in Chicago and Kansas City. Dr. Hood was also the Purdue Archery Team's faculty sponsor and served for many years as a Faculty Fellow at Dumhe Hall. He considered teaching to be his highest calling as he enjoyed working with students, many of whom continued to contact him after graduation.

Dr. Hood was an usher for decades of commencements and evening performances at Elliott Hall of Music and is well-remembered for his gracious hospitality. A long-time member of Trinity United Methodist Church, Eldon served as President of the Lamplighters class. He was also a member of the Sagamore Lions Club for almost 60 years, where he held various offices, including that of President. Eldon received a W.P. Fellowship Award, the highest award bestowed by the Indiana Lions Foundation. He also volunteered as a Red Coat assisting patients and families at the former Home Hospital in Lafayette.

In retirement, Eldon remained active in his church, with the Lions Club, as a volunteer with Home Hospital and his family, including three children, seven grandchildren, and 11 great-grandchildren.

Dr. Hood will long be remembered as a distinguished teacher and role model who cared sincerely for and about students, challenging them to be the best they could be in their academics and in life. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.
University Senate Report – March 23, 2021
Items of interest to faculty that have come before the senate this semester:

**Recommendation to extend P/NP and withdraw deadlines to April 30**

Both of these passed and have since been adopted for Spring Semester.

**Principles for Purdue Childcare**

A resolution is being discussed that would encourage Purdue to ensure there are adequate childcare slots on campus, adequate pay for the people working there, and a sliding scale of fees that make childcare affordable for all employees.

Details and additional information are available on the Senate website: https://www.purdue.edu/senate