

ALEC Faculty Meeting

Minutes

Monday, October 10, 8:15 a.m.

(Breakfast 7:30 to 8:15)

129 AGLS

Information and Questions

- Position Requests (A)

Dr. Elliot shared that he and Dr. Rutherford will meet with Hussey, Sams, Nessler and Steele on Monday, October 17 to discuss our current position requests. He will share the findings as soon as possible.
- ALED Assistant Lecturer (B)

Dr. Rutherford reported that the Walther assistant lecturer position is temporary, one year. The new posted lecturer position is designed to be long-term.

Dr. Wingenbach reminded the room of faculty governance concerning new hires. This is the policy that is currently in use.

The position titles are included in our batch hire list in the Dean of Faculty portal.
- Agricultural STEM Lab (C)

The attached floorplans, etc. are designed to share with donors. They need to see something tangible. There is current funding for the entrance.
- ALEC List Serves (D)

Debbie and Zak have worked on the attached lists. Zak will work with college IT to operationalize the process. Debbie will distribute the final copy.
- FLSA – <http://employees.tamu.edu/compensation/resources/business-travel/>.

Please review the policy as it will go into effect on December 1, 2016.
- Pedagogy Project (E)

Big initiative, money behind it. \$75,000 per course. Will increase good pedagogy practices.
- Advancement Update (F)

Much more coordinated effort. Seattle known, now, as a former student hub. Fearless Front is the new communications effort. Jeff Pool and Cady Auckerman will be visiting departments for a general departmental overview and to discuss top communications goals and needs.
- ALEC Handbook - <http://alec.tamu.edu/about/aims/alec-handbook/> PW: faculty@ALEC
Debbie, Vidya, and Zak have been working on the handbook. Visit the website, review what they have so far and let them know of areas you are concerned with. It is up now but updates can be made quickly.

- Temporary Faculty FY '17 – (G)
All program leaders will have input as far as rate, workload, summer funding. Some concern was expressed over the 81+ class size and the differential between undergraduate and graduate.
- CIA Announcement (H)
Dr. Elliot met with Ambassador Bost week before last. He wanted to give faculty the opportunity to help the CIA with a National Security process. Interest was to be expressed to Debbie before October 6th. At that time, she forwarded the names of four faculty interested (Edney, Briers, Cummings, and Vestal).
- Gear Up (I)
Dr. Elliot will attend this forum in Taiwan with Ambassador Bost in November. See the attachment for their travel itinerary and additional information.
- Associate Department Head Announcement
No announcement is available at this time. Tracy Rutherford will assume the duties of the associate head for graduate programs. Scott Cummings will assist as needed.
- Other

Action Items

- Temporary Faculty Fee/Compliance/DE Incentive (J)
See attachments for reports. Dr. Rutherford encouraged faculty to attend at least one group meeting to discuss the plan. Dr. Wingenbach requested information on DE Incentive Plan. He was interested in generated monies per class, per section. Dr. Murphy told him that reports were not a lot of help for planning because they were one to two semesters behind.

Of the total revenue generated (minus the exempt dollars) 10% goes to the college and 15% to the university. 75% comes back to ALEC, funds which are used to support department efforts including startup commitments, GTAs, staff salaries, temporary faculty salaries, long-term faculty salaries, faculty travel, program area budgets, graduate student travel, software updates, etc.

No action taken.
- Ombuds Officer Role (K)
A draft on the role and responsibilities of the Ombuds Officer was attached. It was noted that Dr. Claire Gill could also be utilized if you wanted to go outside the department.
Action to be taken at next meeting.
- Climate Plan (L)
Second version has already been submitted to Vice Chancellor. We have not heard back from either the first or second submissions. Final report is due November 1.

Dr. Rutherford attended a Leadership for Higher Education Issues recently. Climate and collegiality were the number one topics. Dr. Lupiani also attended. Dr. Rutherford brought back a lot of materials and some ideas for future speakers.

Action to be taken at next meeting.

- Post-Tenure Review (M)

DOF still holding a draft. Briers will be our liaison. Dr. Briers is tasked to ensure that we are compliant. Dr. Robert Strong reported that there was a push to label researchers as either funded or non-funded.

DOF emailed department heads that implementation of the new policy will probably require revision of current college and departmental guidelines and these revisions have to be completed by January 15, 2017. Dr. Briers agreed that it was time to revisit the ALEC Policy on Tenure, Promotion, Post Tenure Review, Annual Review, and Appointment.

No action taken at this time.

- Merit and APR Review – ADH for Research

A committee will be formed. Let Dr. Elliot know if you are willing to serve.

No additional action taken.

- Future Faculty Meetings

Next meeting will be on Tuesday, October 25th at 11:30. Lunch will be provided.

- Three additional GTA's for Spring '17

Covered earlier in meeting.

No action taken.

- Other