

Committee on Academic Staff Issues
College of Agricultural and Life Sciences
October 18, 2023, 12:00pm-1:00pm
473 Horticulture Building

Attendees: Eric Booth, Todd Courtenay, Lesley Fisher (ASEC), Amber Haroldson, Emily Laabs, Veronica Law, Arnaldo Lopez-Hernandez, Maddie Koski, Erin Pierce, Lori Plum, Martha Reck, David Sandra, Kristin Schill (Chair), Dan Smith, Angie Seitler.

Not present: Brittany Magrady

Minutes by: Muhamed Sadiku

Attending as public meeting: None

MINUTES

This meeting was called to order by Kristin Schill at 12:00pm.

1. Review agenda

No changes were made to the agenda. Approved agenda will be posted on CALS CASI website.

2. Consent agenda

Minutes from the September 20, 2023 meeting were approved and will be posted on the CALS CASI website.

3. Subcommittee updates

The four CASI subcommittees were established as follows:

a. Awards and Professional Development

Eric Booth
Maddie Koski
Arnaldo Lopez-Hernandez
Emily Laabs
Martha Reck

b. Communications

David Sandra
Brittany Magrady
Maddie Koski
Kristin Schill
Lori Plum Baumberger

c. Nominations and mentoring

Arnoldo Lopez-Hernandez
Emily Laabs
Eric Booth
Lori Plum Baumberger
Amber Haroldson

d. Personnel procedures, compensation and governance

Erin Pierce
Martha Reck
Amber Haroldson
David Sandra
Brittany Magrady

4. Chair updates

No updates.

5. College updates and questions from the committee

Associate Dean for Finance and Administration, Angie Seitler, discussed the following:

- A suggestion to CASI members to consider adding University Staff voting representatives to CASI, and for the University Staff Award be part of the committee.
- Paul Mitchell replaced Karen Wassarman as Interim Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, and Irwin Goldam is the new Interim Senior Associate Dean.
- Structure of CASI ex-officio seats: Veronica Law to continue to bring related HR updates, a representative from the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion to attend CASI meetings, and Angie Seitler and Louis Macias to attend occasionally/when needed.
- Encourage that a CASI Kickoff/Welcome Event takes place each Fall.

6. Academic Planning Council report and discussion

APC representatives, Daniel Smith and Todd Courtenay, reported the following:

- A broad conversation on setting goals and listing topics for this academic year.
- Paul Mitchell and Megan Ackerman-Yost presented information for departments interested in developing curricula or new courses that could positively impact the college.
- Dean Gillaspay discussed campus hiring initiatives and the potential move of the Graduate School under the direct supervision of the Provost's Office.
- Graduate students' climate and compensation (RA, stipends, segregated fees) will continue to be discussed this year.

There was a discussion around graduate student compensation among CASI members who also would like the APC reps to ask whether this conversation will be elevated.

Other discussion items raised by CASI members include:

- Employee salary increases and other non-financial means to offset inconveniences (i.e., providing various flexibilities).
- Our campus is no longer competitive with other institutions, and thus not as appealing to employees.
- Paid parental leave, donating (time off) policies, partial tuition coverage.
- Amending the bylaws and adding University Staff representatives to CASI membership
 - o Personnel procedures, compensation and governance (PPCG) subcommittee to begin amending CALS CASI bylaws and seek guidance from the Office of the Secretary of the Academic Staff.

7. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 12:44 pm.