Western Academic Program Section (W-APS)
Minutes
Western Joint Directors Summer Meeting, Tumon, Guam
July 10-12, 2018

Present: Elizabeth Bullers (University of Idaho), Tracy Dougher (Montana State University), Brian Warnick (Utah State University), Wendy Fink (APLU)

Minutes: Reviewed minutes of June 21, 2018 meeting

Acknowledgement of new officers: Tracy Dougher was elected as the secretary/chair-elect. Brian Warnick transitioned to chair and Penny Diebel transitioned to past-chair.

Acknowledgement of award winners: The 2018 Western Region Award for Excellence in College and University Teaching in the Food and Agricultural Sciences will be presented at the awards luncheon tomorrow to Dr. Ryan Contreras, an associate professor in the Department of Horticulture at Oregon State University and the 2018 Western Region New Teacher Award for Excellence in College and University Teaching in the Food and Agricultural Sciences will be presented to Dr. Rebekah VanWieren, an assistant professor in the Department of Plant Sciences and Plant Pathology at Montana State University. Sarah ordered plaques will have them available. We will send a reminder in December regarding the national teaching award nomination process and deadlines to encourage more participation from the western region in the teaching awards.

APS Update: Wendy Fink provided the following information:
1. Teaching Innovation Awards – only four applicants; funding for ten
    1. Collaboration between two institutions required
    2. $2,000 match required; $3,000 from APLU/APS
    3. Due each April 30; notified by early June
    4. Funding from APS; will continue until funds are no longer available
    5. Report required – send to Wendy; would like to present at NACTA
2. Mini-sabbatical – on the agenda for approval at ACOP –
    1. Leadership sabbatical – a couple of weeks at another institution
    2. Presentation required at the Winter APS meeting
3. Farm Bill changes
    1. Non-Land Grants will have a fix to their definition – food and agricultural sciences - removed nutrition sciences and environmental sciences
    2. Authorize $19 million ($1 million per school) for scholarships for the 1890 LGUs
    3. House side – merger of SNAP-Ed and EFNEP; all will go to LGUs
4. Serving Rural Students – Rockefeller Philanthropy – hired by Bill and Melinda Gates – how to get people from rural communities to engage with higher

education; outcomes are not clear; research component; rural organizations; joint meeting between associations; orientation for rural students;

5. Staff Training Workshop – alternating years?; advising; career services; recruiting;

6. Employability Skills Survey Data – follow-up on 2011 survey (49 skills); narrowed to 11 skills; over 11,000 responses (2,500 employer); Survey open February through May; October – November – Data analysis; Distribute results in November at APLU; goal of publishing in NACTA. Participants included: Clemson, Iowa State, Virginia Tech, Univ. of Rhode Island, AFA, Arkansas Tech, Stephen F. Austin, Cornell, Louisiana State, Michigan State, McNeese State, Montana State, Murray State, North Carolina State, Northwest Missouri State, Oklahoma State, Texas Tech, Penn State, University of Arizona, University of Georgia, University of Maryland College Park, University of Nebraska Lincoln, University of Nevada Reno, University of Tennessee Knoxville.

7. Review of A-COP, joint cops, etc. Review of the flow chart and committees on policy. Review of meetings.

8. Proposed realignment of NIFA Budget lines – proposal includes moving all educational related lines under AFRI. Discussion of advantages and disadvantages of moving the proposal forward. More conversation will occur at Joint COPS next week.

Talking points with AES and Extension: Neither group made time to meet in Guam to discuss related issues. There is interest from the other groups in continuing the discussion related to experiential learning. Tracy will work with Wendy in collecting data on balance of teaching, research and extension roles based on funding lines prior to having a discussion at another venue with WEDA and WAAESD.

Review of teaching award process: Some frustration was expressed regarding the comparable data with teaching evaluations. Wendy mentioned that the national awards will be simplified. The national award revisions will be discussed next week at the ACOP meetings in Guadalajara. Changes will be submitted to USDA in December. We will discuss revisions at a future meeting so the regional awards are aligned with the national awards. We will encourage national award participation and will send reminders in December.

Updates from institutions:

- Montana State: Charles Boyer will retire in December. Search is currently being conducted for VP/Dean. Increased enrollments both within the university and the college.
- University of Idaho: University enrollment is flat but college enrollment will increase. President will be departing. May lose distance education funding that previously existed so they are working on finding additional funding. Student services staff will be restructured university-wide. Changes to faculty advising process. Starting a PSM program (Professional Science Master's degree; non-thesis master's in science) overseen by the college of graduate studies.

- Utah State University: Continued enrollment growth within the college with flat growth at the university. Hosting Latinos in Action Boot Camp next week. Frank Galey will begin as Provost on August 1.

White papers from former Pre-sessions: Mike Harrington asked for White Papers from pre-session in Bozeman (David Shintani) and the pre-session in Portland (Penny Diebel) to be completed and submitted. We need to get those completed as soon as possible.

Brainstorming/planning for 2019 Pre-session Workshop in New Mexico: will be discussed in the car today on our tour

Action items from joint sessions: a

Other: the final meeting session will be held tomorrow morning at Fish eye . . . .snorkeling gear will be furnished by Guam 4-H