



MINUTES
University of Kentucky
College of Agriculture
StaffLINKS Committee Meeting Held
November 16, 2010

Attendance:

Chair Leslie Queary (Forestry)

Mary Santana (Animal & Food Science)
Kirk Ranta (Horticulture & Landscape Architecture)
Mindy Thompson (Plant Pathology)
Sara Carter (Plant & Soil Science)
Diane Hunter (Regulatory Services)
Debbie Mollett (Veterinary Science)
Kevin Horn—**Special Guest**

Absent:

Judi Burgess (KTRDC/ **Co-Chair**)
Kim King (Agricultural Administration)
Kym Pope (County Extension Programs)
Janet Lensing (Entomology)
Aimee Nielson (Ag Communications)
Amanda Hays (Management Operations)
Jan Childers (School of HES)—**term has ended**
Matt Hash (Livestock Diagnostic Center)---**term has ended**

Departments without Representatives:

Community & Leadership Development
Biosystems & Ag Engineering
Agriculture Economics

Minutes:

Chair Leslie Queary determined a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 11:50 am.

In the absence of our Secretary, Judi Burgess, the reading of the minutes was tabled until the next meeting.

First order of business was discussion of the website Brooke Stone has updated information and a paper copy of the proposed site was handed out. Review and suggest changes to Brooke Stone. Some suggestions included to post meeting minutes right away instead of months later after corrections are made and approved. Perhaps adding registration information for Staff Appreciation Day, attaching a “hit” counter to see how often we are

visited. It was encouraged that stafflinks representatives add the website link to their signature lines for emails.

Second order of old business was discussion of vacancies on the committee. Currently we have 6 vacancies. They are Ag Econ, HES, Ag Engineering, CLD, LDDC and Facilities Management (M&O). It was suggested that Lisa Collins be the contact with department chairs for filling these vacancies.

An email was sent to a committee member with several suggestions for improving Staff Appreciation Day. A copy was handed out to the committee members for review and discussion. Leslie Queary is not the Chair of Staff Appreciation day.

Ideas for the Committee's new mission were numerous. It was suggested that we survey employees to determine their needs or areas of interest. Some suggestions included promotion of services already provided by the university such as wellness programs and training opportunities. It was noted that we should resume the use of our newsletter and using that as a possibility for completing the survey via an online surveying site.

Potential newsletter content was discussed. It included listing current events within the college and health & wellness events. A possible section "Meet My Department" was mentioned that would highlight functions of each group, new research and special announcements. Mindy Thompson volunteered to investigate these items.

Some other suggestions included promotion of the lunch trips to the Farmers Market, wellness programs, introducing a bookclub, brown bag seminars, twice annual farm tours, COA staff scholarship or endowment fund for children of employees, staff book fund for continuing education, tours of the solar house, and on-site wellness programs.

Safety on campus was addressed as it has become an increasing concern. Items such as broken sidewalks and poor/non-existent lighting were some of the items discussed. It seems that these issues should be handled by PPD.

The Chair announced that the next meeting will be on February 15, 2011 at 11:30 in the ES Goodbarn and called for adjournment of the meeting at 12:50pm. The motion to adjourn was made by Kirk Ranta and seconded by Sara Carter.

Respectfully submitted by Sara Carter, on February 14, 2011.

The schedule for StaffLINKS Meetings for 2011 are as follows:

February 15, 2011
May 17, 2011
August 16, 2011
November 15, 2011