

## **Department of Youth Development Report from Chair, Tom Schmitz October 19, 2006**

The last few months have included the following activities:

- ❑ Vice Chairs Wisline – July 11 and September 11
- ❑ Cooperative Extension Administrative Committee Meetings - July 25 & 26, September 21 & 22
- ❑ Human Resource Network Meeting – July 26
- ❑ Cooperative Extension Academic Chairs Meeting with Chancellor Wilson – July 28
- ❑ Chancellor's Reception - August 30
- ❑ Leadership Forum Wisline – September 18
- ❑ Academic Department Chairs Face-to-Face meeting – September 28 & 29
- ❑ Academic Leadership Standing Committee (ALSC) meeting – September 29
- ❑ Tenure Faculty Review Wisline – October 4
- ❑ Day-To-Day Department Chair Responsibilities

**July 11 and September 11 - Vice Chairs Wisline.** The vice-chairs meet via Wisline. Agendas and minutes for the meetings are on the Department Website at <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/4h/department/>. Click on the link for committees and then go to the vice chairs page. The Vice Chairs have been working on the department's action plan and discussing the implications, pitfalls and opportunities associated with the Chancellor's request to explore a possible merger of faculty governance structures with UW-Colleges.

**July 25 & 26 and September 21 & 22 – Cooperative Extension Administrative Committee (CEAC) meetings** – Academic Chairs are now seen as permanent members of CEAC. Chancellor Wilson spent about an hour with the group in July to update on how the merger is moving along. I also attended the Extension Awards Banquet as part of the CEAC meeting. Minutes are available on the web at: <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/admin/committees/committee.cfm?committeeid=2>

**July 26 – Human Resource Network** – I serve as the academic chairs representative on this committee. We have been working on issues related to Performance Improvement Plans and the accepted practice for posting a position as Extension Associate.

**July 28 – Meeting with Chancellor Wilson** - Chancellor Wilson met with the Academic Chairs within Cooperative Extension. As a result of the meeting, Chancellor Wilson came away with a better understanding of the role of faculty at the local level, the scholarship we practice and the rigorous nature of our promotion processes. As Academic Chairs, we came away with a better understanding of the challenges the Chancellor is wrestling and his appreciation for our work.

**August 30 – Chancellor’s Reception** – I attended Chancellor Wilson’s reception to keep the Department of Youth Development in his vision. As luck would have it, I was able to spend a few minutes with the Chancellor walking to the reception.

**September 18 - Leadership Forum** – The group includes 4-H Youth Development leadership from the program area, the department, the association and academic staff. The group meets about once every three months to discuss relevant topics. Items of particular interest were the upcoming 2006 National Conference.

**September 28 & 29 - Academic Department Chairs meetings** – The chairs discussed a number of issues including:

- Chancellor's Orientation Meeting with Department Chairs
- Extending Tenure Time Lines
- FTAC Communication to the Dean
- Consistency of Designating Rank at Time of Hire
- Shared Faculty Governance - UW Colleges and UW Extension
- Faculty Status for Academic Staff - Three Year Rolling Horizon Appointment
- Department Representation at CEAC Meetings
- Number of Faculty from Departments Seeking Promotion
- Update on TFRs and Link with Merit

**September 29 - Academic Leadership Standing Committee meeting** - This group’s mission is to be an advisory body to the Dean on matters that relate to scholarship and the academic affairs of the division. The committee provides a forum for the discussion of issues and action options relating to faculty and academic staff in Cooperative Extension. The highlight of the meeting was a discussion of issues surrounding integration with Marv Van Kekerix UWEX, Vice-Chancellor and Provost.

**October 4 – Tenure Faculty Review Committee Wisline** – The committee met to prepare for next spring’s Tenure Faculty Reviews and set up a schedule for the reviews. Agendas and minutes for the meetings are on the Department Website at <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/4h/department/>. Click on the link for committees and then go to the TFR page.

**Day-To-Day Tasks.** I have been working on a variety of issues related to department meetings. These include:

- Questions from Department members and committee chairs
- Assigning rank to perspective candidates
- Discussions with program area and district directors on options for filling open positions
- Website updates

**Facilitating and Supporting Equal Opportunities in Employment and Programming** – I am now serving a CEAC committee which is looking into how to retain faculty and staff who are not from the dominant culture.

**Upcoming Department Meetings –**

November 6 – Vice Chairs Wisline

December 8 – Department Meeting Via Wisline

Respectfully Submitted:

Tom Schmitz

Chair, Department of Youth Development

October 19, 2006