

Department of Youth Development

Report from Chair, Tom Schmitz

December 1, 2006

The last few months have included the following activities:

- ❑ Cooperative Extension Administrative Committee Meetings – October 30
- ❑ Vice Chairs Wisline – November 6
- ❑ Systemwide Department Chairs Training – November 8
- ❑ Western District Day of Learning – November 21
- ❑ Leadership Forum Wisline – November 30
- ❑ Day-To-Day Department Chair Responsibilities

October 30 – Cooperative Extension Administrative Committee (CEAC) meeting – This three hour Wisline focused on a number of topics including the need to provide input to the Chancellor’s vision for Extension and Colleges and the recent Legislative Audit Bureau report regarding the use of sick leave by professors. Minutes of the meeting are available at: <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/admin/committees/committee.cfm?committeeid=2>

November 6 - Vice Chairs Wisline. The vice-chairs met via Wisline. Agendas and minutes for the meeting is 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 mission statement 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. The Vice Chairs also discussed the need to provide feedback for the Chancellor as to the vision for UW-Extension and UW-Colleges.

November 8 - Systemwide Department Chairs Training – UW-System provided a one-day training for academic chairs. The program which was lead by the WU Sytem Office of General Council provide a legal background on dealing with potential conflicts department chairs may deal with.

November 21 – Western District Day of Learning – The Department of Youth Development worked with the Western District and four Professor candidates to provide an opportunity to hear from the candidates on significant scholarly work they wished to share. The presentations were part of the Professor promotion process and about 30 faculty and academic staff attended the event.

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

- Preparing for Department Meetings
- 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. This committee has developed a document that lays out the business case for developing and retaining a diverse workforce.

Upcoming Department Meetings –
December 8 – Department Meeting Via Wisline

Respectfully Submitted:
Tom Schmitz
Chair, Department of Youth Development
December 1, 2006