

Department of Youth Development

Report from Chair, Tom Schmitz

July 1, 2005

The last month was the start of an orientation period. Three main events included:

- ❑ Academic Department Chairs' Orientation – June 16
- ❑ Academic Leadership Standing Committee (ALSC) Meeting – June 17
- ❑ Orientation and file transfer with Sue Pleskac – June 22

June 16 - The Orientation for Department Chairs included outgoing, continuing and incoming chairs from all five Departments (Youth Development, Family Development, Ag/Ag Business, Community Resource Development and Environmental Sciences). The discussion included:

- ❑ Roles and Responsibilities
- ❑ The benefits of working together
- ❑ Progress on issues and current issues
 - Pay plan and post tenure review
 - Rank at time of hire
- ❑ Partners
- ❑ CEAC (Cooperative Extension Administrative Committee) rotation
- ❑ Academic Leadership Standing Committee (ALSC)
- ❑ Discussion with Yvonne Horton

June 17 – The mission of the Academic Leadership Standing Committee 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. Discussion items included:

- ❑ Update by the Dean and Associate Dean which focused on:
 - Merger with the 2 year colleges which he saw as an outreach opportunity for UWEX
 - For Coop an opportunity to partner with E-learning and Outreach to recruit hard to reach citizens (if this effort develops he expects there would \$ to do this)
 - He sees the effort to merge Waukesha with UW-Milwaukee a threat to this plan
 - Budget Issues:
 - Joint Finance proposal would mean another \$800,000 in recurring funds
 - We have \$500,000 tied up in staff in transition
 - Stabilizing funding involves having **high impact programs** based on scholarship and transformational learning, which **builds political capital**, and all this flourishes in a **responsibility-based culture**.
 - Arlen feels the need for CPAG (Community Partner Advisory Groups) is further illuminated by the budget issues. The ALCS went on record in support of CPAG's.

- ❑ On July 1, 2007 the increase for promotions will go into effect if we are not in a fiscal emergency.
- ❑ Compensation Policy Update
- ❑ CE Policy Review will be undertaken to align ourselves with the Responsibility-Based Culture
- ❑ The progress on the review of division wide mentoring practices
- ❑ The possibility of requiring a one-page individual planning summary
- ❑ Standing Committee Reports
 - Academic Staff Council
 - University Committee
 - CASI (Committee on Academic Staff Issues)

June 22 – The meeting with outgoing Department Chair Sue Pleskac, dealt with understanding the files, budgeting and web-site procedures, chair responsibilities and where to go for help. This was very informative.

Based on all this and my own observations, I see the following among the issues worthy of discussion and possible action this year:

- ❑ Formal action in support of CPAG's
- ❑ Rank at time of hire
- ❑ Update of Department Handbook
- ❑ Formal report on the progress of the Strategic Plan
- ❑ Responsibility-Based Culture

Respectfully Submitted:
Tom Schmitz
Chair, Department of Youth Development
June 27, 2005