

June 12, 2012

TO: Staff in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (CANR)

FR: CANR Staff Advisory Committee (SAC): Chris Kapp (chair), Terri Badgley, Phil Barry, Jill Cruth, Adriana Feldpausch, David Main, Julie Moore, Ellen Schueller, Erin Taylor, Rodney Tocco and Kris Hynes as CANR Dean's Office Liaison

RE: Accomplishments for July 2011 to June 2012

The Staff Advisory Committee for the Dean of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources has completed another successful and productive year. "Staff" is defined as APSA, APA, CTU, 1585/999, Off-campus and farm managers. Formally organized in 2003, the individuals elected to the SAC committee are charged with addressing issues, concerns and opportunities on behalf of staff in CANR through direct communication to the Dean. The committee welcomed several new members including Terri Badgley, Adriana Feldpausch, Julie Moore and Erin Taylor.

Budget Reductions and Layoffs

There were several staff layoffs throughout the College in the past year – including departments and MSU Extension. Staff members personally affected by layoffs have been first and foremost on the committee's minds in terms of how we can help displaced employees as well as those who survived and remain. We recognize that those who were not personally affected need time to heal and deal with the loss of a coworker as well as adjust to different workloads and assignments and perhaps need additional training to succeed in the new structure. Improving morale and job satisfaction and securing any needed professional development will be key as we move forward.

CANR Leadership – Hiring a Dean

We are especially proud to report that for the first time ever a CANR staff member was represented on the search committee for a new dean. Members of SAC formally requested representation and worked through Kris Hynes with the College Advisory Council and the Provost's office to secure a spot on this important committee. We nominated former SAC Chairperson Kathy Tatro from Animal Science and feel fortunate to have been represented by her on the committee. Kathy did an outstanding job representing our collective interests and facilitating the 30 minute time slots that staff members have been provided to meet each

candidate. Although this initial search did not result in identifying and hiring a Dean, we look forward to having representation on the next search.

Events

The committee planned several successful events we'd like to highlight. They included:

- October 27, 2011 – Over 100 attended the Harvest Gathering at Demmer Center which included a “fall” photo-opt with Sparty, great food, a huge number of prize drawings and an update from Assistant Dean Dr. Frank Fear.
- December 2011 – CANR Toys for Tots Drive. The total number of toys collected this year was 408! This is a 25% increase over last year's collection. We also received \$130 in monetary donations, and some college staff volunteered their time with the disbursement of the toys at the local Salvation Army warehouse. This year, SAC encouraged a friendly competition between the collection sites, promising an award to the site with the largest number of toys donated. The 2011 Toys for Tots Champion site, collecting the most toys, is Agriculture Hall room 160 – MSUE Business Office! Their name has been engraved on a CANR Toys for Tots Trophy, which they will be in possession of and will proudly display, until next year's Toys for Tots Drive. Congratulations to the MSUE Business Office, and thank you to everyone for your generosity, you made the holidays much brighter for many local families.
- January 15 and 29, 2012 – MSU Women's basketball games vs. Ohio State and Penn State. Over 250 complimentary tickets distributed to staff and their families. Great family fun!
- April 5, 2012 – Crosstown Showdown – Lansing Lugnuts vs. our own MSU men's baseball team. Through funding from the Dean's office, SAC supplemented about half of the cost of each ticket. A total of 30 tickets were sold prior to the event with about 80 tickets sold at the door. The Crosstown Showdown event fell during spring break for many local schools. SAC may look at different dates next year to allow more families to be able to participate, although for those families who did not travel for spring break, this was an enjoyable and inexpensive event.

CANR Outstanding Service Awards

The Outstanding Service Awards given for 2012 are listed below. The award winners historically receive a plaque along with a monetary stipend. The committee recognized the uncertainty of funding and was especially pleased that even during these tough economic times, the Dean's office felt strongly about allocating stipends. A reception was held on March 29 at the Demmer Center. Winners included:

- Outstanding Staff Award – Up to six employees can be awarded annually. Recipients were: Carolyn Adams, Jennifer Dominguez, Heather Lenartson-Kluge, Sandy Rosa and Debra Williams.

- Outstanding Team Award – One team award is given out annually and recipients this year were from Animal Science: Jamie Pratt, Carolyn Adams, Barb Sweeney, Candace Ebbinghaus and Kim Dobson.
- Monthly Staffer of the Month Awards May 2011- June 2012– Those recipients were:
 - June 2012 – Keri Morris, MSU Extension Business Office
 - May 2012 -- Rene Wilson, Kellogg Biological Station
 - April 2012 - Paula Hitzler, Department of Animal Science
 - March 2012 - Judy Pardee, School of Planning, Design and Construction, Land Policy and the Native American Institute
 - February 2012 – Cindy Warnell, CANR Business and Finance Office
 - January 2012 -- Kathy Walicki, MSU Extension – District 5
 - December 2011 – Judy Lentz Bishop, MSU Extension Director’s Office
 - November 2011 – Barb Sweeney, Department of Animal Science
 - October 2011 -- Holly Lacina, MSU Extension Children and Youth Institute
 - September 2011 -- Pat Talbot, MSU Extension Children and Youth Institute
 - June 2011 – Bill Balluff, School of Planning, Design and Construction
 - May 2011 – Sue Ridge, MSU Extension/Michigan Natural Features Inventory

SAC Members – Thanks to Out-Going Members and Elections

The Staff Advisory Committee would like to thank out-going members Phil Barry and Erin Taylor as well as Rodney Tocco, who needed to resign due to school commitments.

SAC will seek to fill Zones 2 and 5. Nominations are sought and elections are held in June and results announced in July.