

## Forestry Advisory Committee Minutes

Date: 28 March 2013

Attending: John Davis, Bill Hiney, Jim Robbins, Frank Mileham, Don Campbell, Lisa Perry, John Woesner, Russ Forsburg, Barry Dobosh, Mitch Hunt, Jay Fazio, Lucas Titus, Tim Baker

### Agenda:

#### I. Update on current status and budget.

Tim gave an update on the FNR program – it was given a 1-year reprieve from the reduction/elimination axe but the overall college budget is still dangerously in the red by about \$1.5million. CR did receive a number of program support letters from the profession while there was only an incomplete list, it showed over 2 dozen letters of support were sent to Dean Rachel Anderson.

One of the biggest problems for the FNR program has been keeping track of graduates and transfers in order to justify the program's continuance in the future even though class sizes are above typical for career-technical programs. The program had 4 A.S. degrees awarded last Spring and 3 Certificates in Geomatics, however that cycles along with the 2-yr cycle of course offerings. Too many of the FNR transfer/completers are getting the A.A.-Science Exploration degree instead of an FNR degree because of course offerings and articulations. On the bright side, current equipment levels are fairly good because of grants and donations though the program does need to work on modernizing some technology and transportation is a perennial need.

#### II. Program direction for future

Bill suggested we push forward with an NR degree that was proposed several years ago to function as a de facto transfer degree (a formal transfer degree isn't possible at the moment because of CA regulations). There was a discussion about how many of the technical graduates were employed vs. those transferring to HSU and whether the proposed NR degree would make students employable. The committee suggested adding a couple of courses to improve the usefulness of the degree. The committee stated a support for continued GIS offerings because of the employability factor from that specialization

The committee asked for an update on what the course offerings currently are (list provided to committee) and what the content of those courses is. Tim will work up a list of outcomes and content from the formal course documents and send it out to the committee before the next meeting. Tim mentioned the FNR program Facebook page as a web presence and talked about future recruiting efforts from a larger region as a potential draw for new students.

### III. Committee membership and future meetings

Several new members were present at the meeting (Hunt, Fazio, Dobosh, Titus) and it was suggested we recruit additional members from the Federal Agencies (i.e. the Forest Service/BLM/ etc..) Lisa said she'd pursue a lead at the Six Rivers National Forest for a possible committee member. The committee also suggested another meeting before summer to carry the new energy of the committee forward in re-vitalizing the program and ensuring its continuation.

Next Meeting: Wed. May 1, 2013 at 4:30