Forestry Advisory Committee Minutes

Date: 11/19/2014

Attending: David Greene, Don Campbell, Jeff Jones, John Davis, Tim Baker

Agenda:

I. Program Review – Tim went go over the comprehensive program review document for the FNR program.

A. Highlights - strong interest in the program (220 FNR majors on campus)

- higher persistence rates and comparable fill and success rates to college

- strong community support ($3000 in donations last year)

- fairly strong statewide job demand (EED labor statistics)

B. Lowlights - very low percentage of program completions – committee suggested looking at Reedley College statistics to compare completion rates.

II. Curriculum and Staffing problems

A. Inadequate faculty staffing – difficulties in finding good, qualified instructors for some courses – particular problems for Timber Harvesting and the Geospatial courses both on the Eureka campus and the K-T site.

B. Articulation and Curriculum direction

- Should we redesign the program from the ground up or continue tweaking?

The committee discussed several options Tim presented including revamping the program. John thought the idea of a 6-core and 7 elective option might work but have to be careful not to weaken the overall outcomes.

The committee also discussed increasing FNR 54 credits to 4 with an additional lab credit and combining FNR 58 with 67. Tim suggested the entire geospatial courses need to be updated but really needs a steady adjunct faculty to help coordinate the process with HSU.

- What should be the primary focus of the program in the future?

The Committee discussed keeping the dual focus the program tries to keep with technicians and transfer but acknowledged the difficulty in trying to do both. Particularly since Advising and Counseling don’t see the degree that way – as terminal degree only.