

College of the Redwoods – Forestry and Natural Resources

Advisory Committee Meeting - Minutes

3/13/2019

Members present: Tim Baker (CR), Mickey Jarvi (CR), John Davis (Green Diamond), Lizzie Ebert(American Ag Credit), Joe Wagenbrenner (USFS), Jay Fazio (CLFA), David Greene (HSU), Lucas Titus (CalFIRE), Frank Mileham (private consultant)

- Meeting was called to order at 4:35 pm.
- Program updates
  - Curriculum
    - Tim started the meeting presenting that all CR-FNR courses have been updated and approved by curriculum committee.
    - All geospatial courses (FNR 31, 32, and 33) transfer to HSU 1-to-1.
    - FNR 54 (Inventory) has been approved at HSU for transfer.
    - AG 17 (Soils) finally transfers to HSU and the committee was very excited about this.
    - Tim and Mickey are thinking about reducing FNR 80 (Watershed) and FNR 87 (Wildlife) from 3 to 2 credits.
      - This will reduce the FNR A.S. Forestry degree from 62 to 60 credits.
      - These courses do not transfer to HSU currently so this should not affect student's futures.
    - Frank asked about firefighting red cards.
      - CR Del Norte campus is offering L180, S190, and S130 (the Basic 31 course) which are all of the requirements to fight wildfires for the US Government.
      - CR is working with CalFIRE to offer firefighting courses to meet their similar but different requirements.
        - This will be conducted on the CR Eureka campus through community Ed.
    - CR FNR will need to review and update curriculum every 3 years to stay compliant with SAF accreditation.
    - Drone academy will now be offered summer 2020 and will be a non-credit 3 week summer course.
      - Several committee members were interested in this and were curious about if the students will receive certification after completion of the course.
      - The students will still have to travel to a testing facility, but the plan is that students will be able to take and pass the certification test with little to no studying after completion of the drone academy.

- Program Review
  - Tim and Mickey requested 8 total stations but due to their high cost we will have to wait to see if these are approved.
  - Tim and Mickey continue to request \$2,500 for the ESRI site license but this money has been donated by the Redwood Region Logging Conference the last 4 years.
    - Additionally, FNR has received funds from RRLC to purchase chainsaws and safety equipment for safety demonstrations.
- Enrollment
  - Last year CR FNR had a dip in enrollment
  - This year numbers were up for Fall and Spring semester.
    - Tim and Mickey attribute this to a growing need for forestry trained students but also a better relationship with CR counselors.
    - CR FNR also has a CE counselor (Chia Hincliff) and this has helped students navigate the CR FNR program.
  - HSU Forestry program is up but GSP courses are down.
    - David Greene said that students that transfer to HSU Forestry and previously attended CR but finished with the Science Exploration degree start with too many GE courses and too little forestry courses.
      - This sets the forestry students back and could potentially affect financial aide.
- Funding
  - This was addressed during the program review discussion.
- Accreditation updates and Plan
  - Response to comments
    - Need to discuss 20:1 student to teacher ratio.
    - The CR FNR mission statement to align goals and objectives of the FNR program.
      - This will need to be approved by the advisory committee.
    - The expectations of teaching performance will need to be addressed.
    - We need to address how we are handling diversity and recruitment of FNR students.
    - We need to fully address the FNR program budget details.
    - There needs to be a section on a work experience requirement.
      - FNR 10 could do a 8 hour work day.
      - The committee all addressed this separately.
        - Tim and Mickey talked about the FNR 10 day.
        - John, Lizzie and Jay talked about summer/fall camps.
        - Mickey suggested a possible week long camp during spring break.
        - Jay and Lizzie talked about a summer job internship.
  - Plan for full accreditation

- FNR is looking to prepare a full SAF accreditation report during 2020
      - FNR will need the full support and cooperation of the entire committee to assist through this process.
    - The plan is then to conduct the site visit in 2021.
      - Tim is serving on the accreditation team for Bend College in Oregon to gain insight on the accreditation process.
    - Tim and Mickey need to prepare a progress report for 2019 on how CR FNR is beginning to address these issues brought up by the accreditation team.
  - Committee responsibilities
    - Tim informed the advisory committee what CR FNR expected of the advisory committee.
      - FNR requests that the committee members prepare a resume and job titles in addition to assisting with the SAF accreditation report.
      - The advisory committee agreed that we will need to meet more frequently during this process.
- Internships and recruitment
  - Mickey gave an overview of Green Diamond, Sequoia Orchids, and Redwood Parks conservancy internships.
  - Some of these positions have been used to course substitution for various FNR courses to ease student's completion of the FNR A.S. degree.
  - The committee agreed that this is assisting the students with future job opportunities.
  - Mickey then addressed recruitment efforts with Science Night, Redwood Region Resource Rally, RRLC job fair, and FFA.
    - Frank asked if we are including potential baby boomer retirements in our recruitment packages.
    - Tim and Mickey responded that we are.
    - Many of FNR students come from outside of northern California and also outside of California itself.
      - Tim and Mickey have been relying on SAF, word-of-mouth, and online materials to attract these students.
      - CR FNR is now listed on the SAF website as a SAF accredited college (in probation) and Tim and Mickey will have to wait to see if this increases enrollment.
- Forestry Club activity
  - Tim and Mickey provided information on what the Forestry Club has been participating in.
    - Various volunteer activities around the county.
  - The club has very high turnover and interest in the club fluctuates greatly.
- The meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm.