

MINUTES

FEQL Advisory Board Meeting

November 27, 2001

Members Present: Kim Anderson, Pete Fretwell for Scott McKinnie, Matt Keifer, Greg Moller, Paul Monahan, Marilyn Perkins, John Peterson, Dave Winckler, James Zuiches

Members Absent: Don Abbott, Theresa Beaver, Ann George, Janet Kurina, Austin (Rick) Long, Barb Morrissey, Royal Schoen, Randy Smith

Others Present: John Brown, Catherine Daniels, William Green, Vince Hebert, Gerilynn Leonard, Art Linton, Doug Walsh, Doria Monter-Rogers

Chair Marilyn Perkins opened the meeting at 9:20 a.m. Approval of the previous meetings' minutes was deferred until later in the agenda.

Board Composition

Marilyn Perkins brought board members up to date on changes in board member seats. Kim Anderson has assumed the OSU laboratory representative position from Jeff Jenkins. Theresa Beaver has assumed the environmental representative position from Peggy Adams. Randy Smith has assumed the marketer position from Wally Ewart. Don Abbott, Scott McKinnie and Paul Monahan volunteered to serve another three-year term upon completion of their terms on June 30, 2001. The FEQL staff is continuing to pursue a representative for the food processing industry. Marilyn thanked Pete Fretwell for attending in Scott McKinnie's place.

WSU Strategic Planning Process/State of Washington Budget Situation

Dean Zuiches told the board that every college within WSU is developing a strategic plan that must be connected to budget requests. The College of Agriculture and Home Economics (CAHE) is in the process of developing their budget for the next biennium as well as developing their five-year strategic plan. This last biennium WSU faced \$4.6 million in reductions that were absorbed by the university. Every college participated in a 3% reallocation exercise whereby they gave up 3% of their funds and identified their lowest priority programs. Approximately \$1.1 million in programs were closed. Colleges were then able to ask the university for the 3% back for high priority areas such as recruitment, graduate student research assistantships, plant and animal biotechnology, and teaching. CAHE asked for and received nearly all of the funds it gave up during this reallocation exercise. The state budget is in serious trouble with forecasts predicting an \$800 million revenue shortfall. The next biennium will have a serious discrepancy

between income and expenditures. At this time the Governor's office has not requested the university to submit a decreased budget request. A freeze on all capital construction projects is being implemented, however, and the university has been cautioned to be mindful about travel and equipment expenditures. The Governor is expected to announce in mid-December the plan he intends to submit to the legislature for the 2002 biennium. WSU must wait until this plan is public before learning what may be asked of them. WSU's number one priority is education followed by quality of research.

WSU is undergoing a strategic planning effort at the university level. Dean Zuiches predicted changes in university structure as an outcome of the plan. The strategic plan of each college must dovetail with the strategic plan of the university. Dean Zuiches has invited leaders of the CAHE constituency to a meeting in Pullman on December 10th and in Puyallup on December 19th where he will brief them on the CAHE strategic plan. He passed out a memo to board members inviting them, as stakeholders, to these sessions. He also provided a handout on the CAHE Macro Strategic Plan. He noted that in response to budget cuts and reallocations, CAHE has cut 9% of their budget over the last 6 years (1995-2001). During that time, sixty faculty and forty staff positions have been closed. He noted that any further budget cuts would directly affect some constituent group(s) as there is no flexibility within the budget for absorbing further cuts.

General Updates

John Brown, chair of Entomology, the home department for FEQL, noted that Catherine Daniels had been given a non-tenure track faculty appointment in August. He also briefed board members that Allan Felsot did not change his appointment as discussed at the last meeting. The WSU Tri-Cities campus link to Columbia Basin College changed as the WSU campus altered direction to pursue a viticulture program.

Minutes from April 17, 2001 Meeting

Dean Zuiches noted the minutes should be corrected to indicate his absence and that he should be listed among other voting members. The minutes were approved with the noted correction.

AENews Update

Catherine Daniels told board members the *Agrichemical and Environmental News* had passed the 500 mark in electronic subscriptions in October. At the last meeting board members had requested a letter of introduction be sent to each representative and senate member in Olympia along with a copy of a recent newsletter. The purpose of this activity was to increase visibility of the newsletter and the FEQL staff. Catherine Daniels reported that two members, Representative Clements and Senator Shin, had sent thank you letters. The major cost of producing the newsletter is in the form of the editors' salary. Without further grant support to maintain this position the newsletter will produce the final hard copy in December 2001 and begin electronic-only issues in January 2002. The purpose of this action is to decrease the time spent by the editor, Sally O'Neal Coates, on production of the newsletter. Her time is supported on grants for other activities and therefore her time on the newsletter must be decreased. During the winter quarter the PDF version of the newsletter will change to only include individual PDFs of

main articles. During this time frame the editorial staff expects to add a search engine so that back issues of the newsletter can be searched by key word. Greg Möller suggested that when the email notification is sent out that a new issue is on the web, that a hotlink be placed for each of the main articles so they can be accessed directly from the email. Art Linton suggested that board members could give input on articles. Catherine Daniels invited board members to submit ideas for articles and authors and encouraged board members to submit articles as appropriate. She noted the agriculture/food terrorism issue (November 2001 Special Edition) was very popular. General discussion followed on the topics of bioterrorism, ag and food terrorism, and worker exposure to pesticides.

The board broke for lunch from 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Presentation: Daniels for Moran

Bridget Moran, the Endangered Species Coordinator from Washington State Department of Agriculture, had been originally slated to speak on “Pesticides and Salmon Strategy.” She was unable to attend because of bad weather. Catherine Daniels presented part of Bridget Moran’s slide presentation as a lead in to William Green’s presentation. A copy of her slides was given as a handout.

Presentation: Green

William (Bill) Green of the Washington State Department of Ecology, Water Quality Program, presented a talk on “Water Quality Issues Related to Pesticides”. A copy of his slide presentation was given to board members. He discussed the utility of having pest management strategic plans (PMSPs) serve as best management practices (BMPs). An interagency meeting of WSU, WSDA, ODA, EPA Region 10, NRCS, and WDOE is scheduled for December 6th where these ideas will be explored. If this is acceptable to all agencies, then funding will be sought to initiate pest management strategic plans in those commodities whose representatives want to undertake the activity on a voluntary basis. The activity ties into the Pesticide Information Center as the 406 grant Catherine Daniels receives from the Western Region Pest Management Center includes the development of pest management strategic plans.

Presentation: Hebert

Vince Hebert made a presentation on atmospheric transport of pesticides in which he discussed the history behind the issue and some recent data acquired in a research project in which he was involved during 2001. A handout of the slides will be distributed with the minutes.

Presentation: Monter

Doria Monter-Rogers, administrative assistant for the FEQL, is also the laboratory Quality Assurance Specialist. In her presentation, she informed the audience of the duties and responsibilities of the Quality Assurance Specialist, and explained how her activities are valuable to the laboratory.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the board will be on April 17, 2002 in the same location, beginning at 9 a.m. and scheduled until 4 p.m. Marilyn Perkins requested that when the list of board members is updated and sent out that the contact information for the FEQL faculty be included as well.

Program Update: Walsh

Doug Walsh, FEQL faculty member and agrichemical/environmental education specialist, detailed his recent work in IR-4 studies, riparian buffers, hybrid poplar research, and farmworker studies.

Program Update: Hebert

Vince Hebert, FEQL faculty member and analytical chemist, reviewed his goals for the laboratory: addressing the needs of agriculture in the state, developing a robust research program, and increasing partnerships with commodity groups and other university researchers. He noted that there would be no IR-4 studies for the laboratory in 2002. This is not to be interpreted as a reflection upon the laboratory, which remains in good standing with IR-4. It is a reflection of internal fiscal reallocations at the Western Region IR-4 office, which will do all of the studies themselves.

Program Update: Daniels

Catherine Daniels, FEQL faculty member and pesticide coordinator, reviewed activities of the Pesticide Information Center (PIC) staff during the last 6 months. She introduced Gerilynn Leonard, newest PIC staff member, and told the audience that both the Pesticide Notification Network (PNN) and the 406 grant requests had been successful. Crop profiles were still underway as was her participation in a regional pest management strategic plan on potatoes and dry peas/lentils. During the next six months she expected to become involved with others in the Pacific Northwest Coalition in determining how to use a landscape approach to pest management. In closing, she thanked the members for serving as her 406 grant advisory board.

Marilyn Perkins adjourned the meeting at 4 p.m.
