

Program Viability Task Force

Conference Call

July 22, 2004

3:00 PM CDT

Members Present: Lynette Olson, Barbara Stewart, Carol Kellett, Billie Collier, Steve Jorgensen, Paulette _____, Francis Shipley, Virginia Vincenti, Dixie Crase.

The meeting was called to order with no additions or changes to the agenda.

Initial discussion focused on priority tasks for moving the task force agenda forward. The following steps were identified.

1. Identify consultants representative of different types of institutions and program structures – e.g., land grant vs. non-land grant; accredited vs. non-accredited; small vs. large; college vs. school vs. department -- who could give advice to units on viability matters even before they might find themselves in trouble or otherwise needing to do so. The list of these consultants would be posted on the AAFCS website, with links to related websites (e.g., CAFCS, BOHS). Lynette Olson volunteered to work with Alyce Akers in taking leadership on this project.
2. Write a manuscript focusing on key issues relating to program viability, to be published in the *Family and Consumer Sciences Research Journal*. Editor Jane Workman has indicated that she will publish the piece, along with responses from various authors, in a future issue of the *Journal*. There is a November 1 deadline. Carol Kellett volunteered to take the lead in this effort.
3. Collect survey data on-line and by direct contact to examine the multitudes of structures and program types currently in existence in the field. Barbara Stewart volunteered to take leadership on this project.
4. Develop a bibliography of literature sources relating to program viability issues that could be posted on the AAFCS website with links to the others. Virginia Vincenti and Billie Collier volunteered to take leadership on this project.
5. Develop case study examples, such as the recent structural change that took place at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln. These could be posted on the websites. Virginia Vincenti and Billie Collier volunteered to take leadership on this project.
6. Develop a repository of letters that have been written in the past on behalf of programs that were under threat on their respective campuses (e.g., Michigan State, Virginia Tech, Kansas State, Auburn). A call could be put out to the CAFCS and BOHS e-mail distribution lists to solicit letters from authors who

might have submitted them in defense of these various programs. Carol Kellett and Lynette Olson volunteered to take leadership on this project.

Paulette agreed to gather and organize materials from the letters, bibliography, and case studies projects.