

## Program Viability Task Force

### Conference Call

October 4, 2004

2:30 PM CDT

Members Present: Barbara Stewart, Steve Jorgensen, Paulette Pardun, Mary Ellen Saunders, Shirley Hymon-Parker, Francis Shipley, Virginia Vincenti, Dixie Crase.

The meeting was called to order with changes to the agenda based upon who could not be on the conference call. A number of agenda items were deferred until the next meeting.

The minutes of the September 13, 2004 conference call were changed to reflect the fact that Barbara Stewart and her assistant will not be doing a survey of various units to determine their structural and organizational characteristics. Rather, they will be conducting a web-based analysis of FCS units to determine these characteristics.

The agenda item, "Update Consultant's Database List," was deferred until the next call or until Lynette Olson is able to report.

Francis Shipley reported on the joint meeting of CAFCS and BOHS to be held in February. The meeting will take place in the St. Gregory Hotel in Washington, D.C. Chancellor Harvey Perlman from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln will be the keynote speaker on February 17. We are still waiting to hear from Mary Gray at USDA about her possible attendance.

The agenda item, "Cooperative Extension Issues," was deferred until the next call or until Lynda Harriman can report.

Barbara Stewart reported on progress with the website survey of program types, structures, and organizations nationally. A graduate assistant is working with her. They are using existing lists of programs, and going to their websites to develop a taxonomy of names (university, college, school, department, and program names), degrees offered, and contact information. Francis Shipley agreed to provide the CAFCS list to Barbara. Discussion followed about how we can best use these data (e.g., for an article, web site access for perusal, etc.). Virginia offered to have Paulette (graduate student) help with this.

The BOHS benchmarking planning process, led by Dennis Savaiano of Purdue University was discussed. Dennis is working with a small group of BOHS members to determine if the FAIES system, currently administered at Virginia Tech University, is able to incorporate benchmarking data (budget sizes, faculty and student FTE data,

sponsored project funding, development data, average SAT, GRE, and ACT scores, etc.) across FACS programs. Once instituted, this information will be useful to all units for conducting peer comparisons.

We discussed the desirability of creating a summative web site that incorporates findings from all of the various surveys being conducted, including qualitative types of reports such as the background and history of mergers such as those that have taken place at the University of Nebraska and those that are in process, such as the Iowa State University.

Discussion followed about having a more visible link on the AAFCS web site to provide access to all HEU units. A label change under the "Education" link was recommended. Mary Ellen Saunders agreed to follow-up on this request. We also will request a link on the AAFCS web site to related web sites, e.g., sample letters from prior mergers and reorganization efforts, resources useful to units, names of consultants, etc. Karen Tucker will check on this.

The agenda item, "Presentations from NASULGC last fall for website," was postponed until the next meeting or until Billie Collier and or Carol Kellet can report.

We discussed the manuscript submitted by Virginia Vincenti to FCSRJ. She is awaiting word on the disposition of the paper from Editor Jane Workman. Nominees for potential respondents were submitted by Virginia, based upon our previous discussions.

We discussed the Iowa State reorganization plan, based upon latest information provided by Dean Pam White and Tahira Hira. The task forces there are completing there reports. One main issue of contention is what the name of the reconstituted unit will be.

The agenda item, "Funding Sources for Continuing Work, Deadlines," was postponed until the next meeting or until Carol Kellett could report.

Our next conference call meeting is scheduled for either ***Friday, November 5, 2004 at 3:00 PM Central time, or on Friday, November 12 at 3:00 PM Central time.*** The announcement will be made after Virginia Vincenti has polled the membership.