

Department of Agribusiness Economics
Minutes of 18 April 2018 Meeting

- Attending was tenured and tenure track Faculty Drs. Rendleman, Moon, Sanders, and Asirvatham.
- Department Chair, Dr. Altman, was invited by the faculty to attend the meeting.
- Faculty elected to take and report minutes for the meeting.

Discussion occurred regarding the Program Change Plan as distributed by the Chair. The faculty expressed overall support for needed changes at SIUC. However, the following points in the Program Change Plan are still of concern.

1. The plan is very unclear regarding the Department of Agribusiness Economics' relationship with the various schools in business.
 - a. Footnote 1 refers to cross-appointments with the "*School of Accountancy.*"
 - b. Footnote 1 states that current faculty may choose to transfer their tenure to the "*School of Accountancy and Finance.*" At this point, it is not clear that such a school will exist.
 - c. Footnote 1 states that future Agribusiness Economics faculty hires may be either in the School of Agricultural Sciences or the "*School of Accountancy and Finance.*" This is major concern. If new hires may tenure in a school outside of where the program resides, then it will be very difficult to make a case for a new hire with administrators in either school.
 - d. Footnote 2 states that the Agribusiness Economics degree will be jointly delivered with the "*School of Analytics, Finance, and Economics.*" It is not clear that this school will exist in the form stated.

The faculty agreed that working with the various schools in business has some potential, but these very specific footnotes are unneeded given the overall aims of the campus restructuring.

2. The use of "division," "program," and "former academic unit" (as on page 3) of the document is vague and could result in unexpected groupings within the new schools.
3. The term "complexity" (as on page 10) to award various resources to divisions is undefined.
4. It is not clear which (if any) operating papers will exist at the "division" level and will govern during the transition period. This may leave untenured faculty vulnerable in certain circumstances.
5. The faculty expressed their desire to explore alternative proposals that better maintain the current Departmental identity while being aligned with the traditional College of Agricultural Sciences.

Private ballots were distributed to the faculty stating to vote "yes," "no," or "abstain" on the question of "Do you approve of the Program Change Plan that was distributed?"

Partial Minutes of 20 April 2018 Meeting

- The minutes from the 18 April 2018 meeting were approved.
- Ballots from the 18 April 2018 meeting were collected and tabulated. The result was 0 "yes", 4 "no", and 1 "abstain."
- The meeting moved to new business.