

MINUTES

Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education
Committee on Academic Staff Issues
Monday, October 9, 2017
1:30 – 3 p.m.
University of Wisconsin-Madison Arboretum

Convened at 1:30 p.m.

Present: Moira Harrington, Denny Hackel, Julie Shears, Kurt McMillen, Julie Karpelenia, Peter Johnson, Tim Bendfelt, Jay Krafft, Karen Oberhauser

Absent: Jason Pinnow, Judy Bauman, Katie Olsen, Nagesh Adluru

Business

Committee lacked a quorum so minutes from April, May, June and September meetings were not acted upon.

The committee decided to forgo a January 2018 meeting.

The committee was greeted by Karen Oberhauser, who was one week into the job as the new director of the Arboretum. She provided some background on herself and the Arboretum.

Oberhauser is a conservation biologist and came from the University of Minnesota. She is an expert on monarch butterflies. The Arboretum's focus on research, outreach and citizen engagement is a good match for her background and interests. She noted that UW-Madison's arboretum is different from most universities' arboretums, which serve as a place for specimen preservation. Here, it's also a place for cutting-edge research.

There are 1,200 acres in the Arboretum and the center also manages an additional acres in parcels an hour's drive from Madison as well as one farther north. These parcels had been donated and became part of the Arboretum's portfolio. In the Arboretum's early days last century, it also included the Lakeshore Conservancy and Picnic Point. That property has now split from the Arboretum but shares complementary activities.

Some "jewels" at the Arboretum include Curtis Prairie, the oldest restored prairie in the world, and Longenecker Horticultural Gardens, which features woody specimens from the Midwest but also some naturally located outside of the region. There is a research team that works with faculty and staff. The Arboretum also engages in extensive pre-K education as well as efforts directed toward lifelong learners.

CASI members toured the area around the Arboretum Visitors' Center. The tour was conducted by Brad Herrick, ecologist, and Susan Carpenter, native plant gardener.

General Reports

Karpelenia confirmed that on Dec. 1, the Wisconsin Energy Institute will become an OVCRGE center.

She also noted that the Title and Total Compensation Study committee, of which she is a member, continues its work on determining job families. This will allow a clear comparison

among jobs on campus, as well as those at other institutions. It will help define compensation and promotion guidelines. The committee is gathering input on job families until mid-December. It will update job descriptions in March 2018.

Committee Reports

The Nominations and Districting Subcommittee will work to incorporate the Wisconsin Energy Institute into the current district system, as well as Research and Sponsored Programs and determine a proposal for a way forward.

Action Items

Harrington will circulate past meeting minutes for email approval.

Settle district membership. This will be placed on the December 2017 agenda.

Identify a leadership transition plan for June 2018 when longtime members Harrington and Shears rotate off the committee. This will be placed on the February 2018 meeting agenda.

Bauman to complete July minutes.

Adjourned at 3 p.m.

Next Meeting

1:30 – 3 p.m. Monday, Nov. 13, Room 187 Bascom Hall, guest will be Nick Novak, assistant vice chancellor, research services

Future Minutes

Shane Hubbard

Respectfully submitted,

Moira Harrington