

5-2-14

Agriculture Advisory Board Minutes

Dusty Neugebauer called the meeting to order at 7:00am

Kile read minutes of previous meeting

Old Business

A.A.S. Degree waivers were applied for to move AAS degrees from 64 credit to 72 credit requirement.

Mark Bents and Dusty Neugebauer sent a letter of support in December on behalf of the advisory board.

Dusty Neugebauer commented that the credit increase will allow for more technical education in the agriculture field as well as increased opportunity for internship experiences. Dave Soderholm commented that internship experiences are very important for on the job training as well as career exploration.

New course offering "Introduction to Spatial Management Software" was offered this spring. Jeff Rogers and Peter Scholtes felt the course went well and that there is an importance to exposing agriculture students to the management software.

SMS, Farmworks, Ag Studio were programs that students were exposed to. Dusty spent 5 days with the class training them with Ag Studio.

New Business

Students that enroll in AAS degrees in the Fall of 2014 will be required to reach the 72 credit requirement. The breakdown of credits will be twenty credits of general education and 52 credits of technical education. Dusty has some concern with the capability of students reaching 72 credits in two years. Students will be required to take 18 credits per semester or enroll in summer courses. Jeff thought that if students enrolled in summer internships or possibly used the summer for some of their general education courses they can reduce the credit load throughout the year.

New agriculture course offerings may be needed to make it easier for students to reach 72 credits. A few courses of interest that the group came up with is possibly a welding course and sales and marketing course. Mark Bents felt that hands on courses are of interest to students and provide mechanical skills that they will use in the future. Dave Soderholm feels that sales and marketing is an area that employees could use some improvement which will help with customer relations. Brian Dorsey commented that animal husbandry material would be very beneficial to employees that are working for producers of his.

Jon Mahlberg moved that Rogers investigate how many credits may be needed yet to make course offerings a smooth transition to earning 72 credits. He also mentioned that he thought Jeff should visit with students or look into other programming to see where we could most enhance the program.

Mark moved that Jeff should make any catalog, outline, and course name changes that are necessary for the upcoming year.

Jeff shared that the college would like to designate a classroom as agriculture. We are looking into what will make an appropriate environment for laboratory and lecture activities within the classroom. If the group has any input it would be much appreciated. Maybe some of the classrooms they experienced in college.

Peter Scholtes gave his report on how viewed the program from a student perspective. He talked about his internship opportunity with Precision Planting and Dekalb seed, with Mike Kunerth. In addition he gave a brief overview of how his experience as a state PAS officer is going.

Meeting Adjourned 7:55am

Members Present

Kile Behrends
Dusty Neugebauer
Dave Soderhom
Jon Mahlberg
Brian Dorsey
Mark Bents
Peter Scholtes
Jeff Rogers