

MEMORADUM OF UNDERSTANDING – 2003 PROGRAM REVIEW OF COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

The faculty, staff, and the dean of College of Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resource Management met with Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs on July 14, 2003 to discuss issues resulting from the college's recent program review. The self-study report by CAFNRM (Attachment 1), the report by external reviewer Dr. William H. Brown (Attachment 2) and the recommendations of the UH Hilo Congress (Attachment 3) were the basis for discussion.

The group agreed upon the following:

1. The UH Hilo Administration is committed to the continuation of CAFNRM as a college.
2. The Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs will continue to demonstrate his commitment to CAFNRM by pursuing a share of the university's Land Grant mission with UH Mānoa. An Agricultural Council is to be created and jointly chaired by UH Hilo and UH Mānoa pending the approval of UH Board of Regents.
3. CAFNRM faculty agreed that there are too many academic programs in the college and will look into ways to reduce the number of programs by eliminating low-demand programs and by combining stronger programs.
4. The UH Hilo Administration will encourage and support CAFNRM faculty members' efforts in the development of new interdisciplinary and cross-disciplinary curricula.
5. CAFNRM will collaborate with UH Mānoa's CTAHR to share faculty expertise and to explore opportunities for offering joint academic degrees. One possible mechanism is to facilitate greater collaboration via joint appointments.
6. CAFNRM faculty will actively seek extramural funding for equipment purchasing while the VCAA will explore the possibilities for extending equipment maintenance contracts.
7. CAFNRM faculty and their Dean will work together to improve leadership, communication and faculty morale within the college.
8. Faculty development opportunities are available through the UH Hilo Research Council's Travel Awards, Seed Grants and Research Relations Funds. Additional support can be obtained from the Professional Development Fund allocated by the UH System. CAFNRM faculty will more actively apply for such support.
9. CAFNRM Dean Collier announced his plan to return to faculty status at the college and will stay on until the new permanent dean arrives.

While the administration will continue the commitment to the 11 month appointment for current and future hires, the CAFNRM faculty will consider a number of other suggestions made by the VCAA that include:

- Engaging more actively in entrepreneurial activities that will bring in more students and extramural support, as well as benefit the agricultural community of Hawai'i Island.
 - Working with College of Continuing Education and Community Services to attract nontraditional students, and offering training courses to nontraditional students in such venues as the Agricultural Summer Institute
 - Developing, establishing and strengthening their partnerships with PBARC and CTAHR
 - Networking with agricultural programs in local high schools
 - Rearrangement of class/lab credits to increase appeal to non-agricultural students
 - Pursuing extramural grants/contracts in support of teaching and research
 - Focusing on selected agricultural commodities, such as orchid, fruits, horse, and beef cattle.
 - Embracing a cultural change to promote civility, teamwork, cohesiveness, and mutual respect among colleagues
- ❖ Signed by Bruce Mathews, CAFNRM Senate Chair on August 1, 2003
 - ❖ Signed by CAFNRM faculty: Lorna Anita-Tsutsumi, Jack Fujii, Sheldon Furutani, Kevin Hopkins, William Sakai, Sabry Shihata, Michael Shitaku, Michael Tanabe, and Marcel Tseng in August 2003
 - ❖ Signed by Michael Collier, Dean of CAFNRM on August 4, 2003
 - ❖ Signed by Christopher Lu, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs on August 5, 2003

Attachments:

- 1 CAFNRM Program Review Report
- 2 CAFNRM External Reviewer's Report
- 3 UH Hilo Congress Recommendations