Members present: Michael Toews, Jose Reyes de Corcuera, Jeff Jordan, Robert Dove, Gerald Henry, Paul Thomas, Christa Campbell, Ron Pegg, Mike Azain, Shavannor Smith, Tim Grey, Kerry Oliver, Juan Carlos Diaz, Andrew Parks Benson (for Brian Jordan), Jean Williams-Woodward, Nick Fuhrman (for Maria Navarro), Rebecca Thomas, Phillip Edwards, Tim Varnedore

1. The meeting was called to order by Michael Toews at 12:59 pm and a quorum was present.

2. The minutes from the November 16, 2016 meeting were approved by unanimous consent.

3. Paul Thomas updated the membership on issues and outcomes being discussed on the President’s Faculty Advisory Committee.

4. Dean’s report. Robert Shulstad mentioned: 1) despite 15% increases annually in grant dollars for the last three years, there is continued need for additional extramural grant funding; 2) CAES has hired 24 new faculty in the past 15 months, including at least one position in every department; 3) full funding approved from both sides of the GA legislature at this point; 4) UGA strives to gain membership in the AAU and a top 10 national ranking; metrics that we need to improve to achieve these goals include more grants, graduate students and alumni giving.

5. Standing Committee Reports

   CAES Undergraduate Curriculum: adopted the HFIM course prefix and several new courses or course changes.

   CAES Undergraduate Affairs Committee: no report.

   CAES Graduate Affairs and Curriculum Committee: approved 5 new courses/course changes and organized the E. Broadus Browne Awards for outstanding graduate research.

   CAES Faculty Affairs and Grievances Committee: did not meet.

6. Action items

   A. The proposal to create a new course prefix (HFIM) to support the proposed major in Hospitality, and Food Industry Management in AAE passed by unanimous consent.
B. Council reconsidered our October 2016 vote that enabled students majoring in Agribusiness or Agriculture and Applied Economics to be able to substitute BIOL 1103-1103L or BIOL 1104-1104L to meet the current CAES college-wide course requirement that all students take BIOL 1107-1107L, or BIOL 2107-2107L, or PBIO(BIOL) 1210-1210L. After being briefed on issues raised by Academic Affairs, Michael Toews proposed that council reconsider our vote with a second for the motion by Jeff Jordan. With direction provided by Dr. Broder, council thoroughly discussed previously undisclosed problems created by individual departments having different requirements to meet stated college wide standards. It was clarified that such substitutions will be addressed for individual students on a case-by-case basis through the existing petition mechanism.

At the conclusion of the discussion, Dr. Toews proposed the following: “I move that Council not approve the specific proposal submitted by AAE in October 2016 that would allow AAE students to substitute BIOL 1103-1103L or BIOL 1104-1104L to meet current college-wide biology requirements; however, students always have the right to appeal on an individual basis.” The motion was seconded by Tim Grey and passed by unanimous consent.

7. Old Business

No old business was brought forward.

8. New Business

A. Dr. Broder stated that an announcement to faculty on the 2017-2018 CAES and University Councils went out on February 14, 2017, requesting nominations to fill vacancies on University Council Standing Committees. Only one representative was nominated for each committee. Michael Toews proposed that Council formally approve the nominated faculty to serve on the specific committee that they were nominated. Those members included: Fanbin Kong (Committee on Facilities), Amanda Smith (Executive Committee), Robert Dove (Faculty Affairs Committee) and Michael Toews (University P&T Appeals Committee). The motion was seconded by Juan Carlos Diaz and passed by unanimous consent.

B. Michael Toews read an email received on March 2, 2017, from Dean Sam Pardue stating that the Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources will be proposing a new degree in Natural Resources Management and Sustainability. While CAES will not endorse the requirement, we will not oppose it. Further, to foster a continuing partnership with Forestry, Dr. Pardue specifically requests that CAES representatives to the University Course and Curriculum Committee and the University Council not oppose Warnell's proposed new major.

9. Remaining meetings in spring 2017: 04/26/2017

10. Meeting adjourned at 2:10 pm