

From: "Schulz, Kirk" <kirk.schulz@wsu.edu>

Date: Wednesday, May 10, 2017 at 11:05 AM

To: "Mittelhammer, R C" <mittelha@wsu.edu>, Colleen Kerr <colleen.kerr@wsu.edu>

Cc: "Druffel, Ginger K" <gkdruffel@wsu.edu>, "Keane, Christopher" <chris.keane@wsu.edu>, "Hoyt, Christine Rae" <christine.hoyt@wsu.edu>

Subject: Re: Communication with Rancher

Ron – Thanks. At this point a plan moving forward is probably the most important point – and engagement of this community as we hire folks maybe a good start.

K.

From: R Mittelhammer <mittelha@wsu.edu>

Date: Wednesday, May 10, 2017 at 10:35 AM

To: "Kirk (WSU) Schulz" <kirk.schulz@wsu.edu>, "Kerr, Colleen" <colleen.kerr@wsu.edu>

Cc: Ginger Druffel <gkdruffel@wsu.edu>, Christopher Keane <chris.keane@wsu.edu>, "Hoyt, Christine Rae" <christine.hoyt@wsu.edu>

Subject: RE: Communication with Rancher

Kirk:

A good point that deserves some careful consideration – and we are in the process of doing precisely that.

As for a more substantive response and background, I will endeavor to keep it short, but it is not a short story ...

During the last year we have been stepping up our efforts to reengage with the Dairy/Livestock industry. However, the starting point vis-à-vis livestock/ranching is not all that solid. We have Susan Kerr, Jan Busboom, and Marc Nelson all retiring from the Animal Sciences unit at various times during the coming FY 18, and all had programs related to livestock, albeit continuing transparently, industry engagement was not all that vigorous during the last few years. Historically, the industry in NE WA *did* have a faculty champion, and his name was Wayne Madson. But he retired many years ago, and the truth is that his functionality and regional engagement has not (yet) been replaced.

That said, I am engaging with Marc Nelson to see if he will/can step up his game and engage especially with the NE WA Livestock/Ranchers during his remaining time at WSU (but only until the end of the year – he is retiring Jan 2, 2018), and if we arrange for a delegation to visit in mid-June, he could come with – he still commands a notable level of respect in the industry. The longer run is such that

we will need to rehire behind at least one of these retiring individuals to reestablish the vigorous engagement (and faculty “champion”) that is needed with this segment of the industry.

We also have two regional livestock specialists that in theory might provide additional support (Don Llewellyn in Kennewick, and Paul Kuber in Davenport), but given their location and program structure, I don’t know that engagement with the NE WA component of the industry is a fruitful strategy. In any case, we will look into this further as well, although my previous interactions with the An Sci Chair would underscore my worry.

That may be more than you wanted or needed, but that is some context for where we are at, where we might go, and when.

Thanks.

Ron

From: Schulz, Kirk
Sent: Wednesday, May 10, 2017 8:47 AM
To: Mittelhammer, R C <mittelha@wsu.edu>; Kerr, Colleen <colleen.kerr@wsu.edu>
Cc: Druffel, Ginger K <gkdruffel@wsu.edu>; Keane, Christopher <chris.keane@wsu.edu>; Hoyt, Christine Rae <christine.hoyt@wsu.edu>
Subject: RE: Communication with Rancher

Ron – Do we have any other faculty members who might be able to work with the Ranching industry in any form or fashion? I feel that they need an internal champion or person that they can work with.

Just curious ...

K.

From: Mittelhammer, R C
Sent: Tuesday, May 9, 2017 3:59 PM
To: Schulz, Kirk <kirk.schulz@wsu.edu>; Kerr, Colleen <colleen.kerr@wsu.edu>
Cc: Druffel, Ginger K <gkdruffel@wsu.edu>; Keane, Christopher <chris.keane@wsu.edu>; Hoyt, Christine Rae <christine.hoyt@wsu.edu>
Subject: RE: Communication with Rancher
Importance: High

Kirk: